

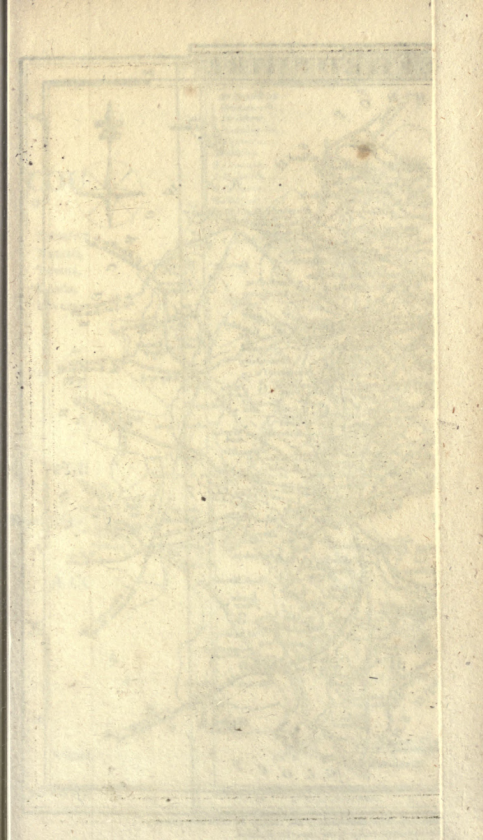


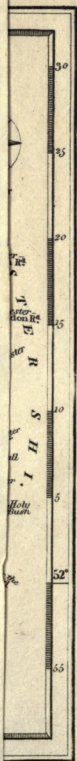
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A  
TOPOGRAPHICAL  
AND  
STATISTICAL DESCRIPTION  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF HEREFORD:

*Containing an Account of its*

Situation,	Minerals,	Agriculture,
Extent,	Fisheries,	Curiosities,
Towns,	Manufactures,	Antiquities,
Roads,	Trade,	Natural
Rivers,	Commerce,	History,

Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, &c.

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED,

*The Direct and Principal Cross Roads,  
Distances of Stages, Inns, and  
Noblemen and Gentlemen's Seats.*

ALSO

A LIST OF THE MARKETS AND FAIRS,

*And an Index Table,*

Exhibiting at one View, the Distances of all the Towns from London,  
and of Towns from each other :

*The whole forming*

A COMPLETE COUNTY ITINERARY.

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BY G. A. COOKE, ESQ.

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Illustrated with a

MAP OF THE COUNTY.

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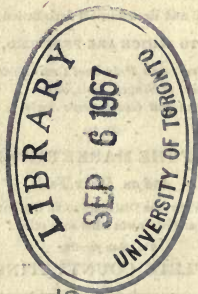
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G. SIDNEY, Printer,  
Northumberland Street, Strand.

# A TABLE

## OF THE

### PRINCIPAL TOWNS IN THE COUNTY,

*Their distance from London, Markets, Houses, and  
Inhabitants, with the time of the arrival  
and departure of the Post.*

Towns.	Dis.	Mark.	Houses	Inhab.	Post arrives	Post departs.
Bromyard	125	M.	571	2769	4 aft.	8 morn
Dorstone	144		138	591		
Hereford	135	W.F.S.	1763	9090	6½ aft.	5 morn
Kingsland	141		196	989		
Kington	155	Wed.	505	2813	8 morn	5 aft.
Ledbury	120	Tues.	644	3476	4 aft.	8½ m.
Leominster	137	Friday	968	4646	6 aft.	6 morn
Longtown	146		158	842	4½ aft.	6 morn
Orleton	142		110	574	½ aft.	6 morn
Pembridge	150		267	1203		
Ross	124	Thurs.	585	2957	4½ aft.	9½ m.
Weobly	147	Thurs.	159	739	9 aft.	6 morn

The price of postage for a single letter varies from 9d.  
to 1s. throughout the county.

# INDEX OF COMPUTED DISTANCES FROM TOWN TO TOWN IN THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

The names of the respective Towns are on the top and sides, and the square where both meet give the distance.

	Bromyard			Distant from London			Miles
Hereford	...	14	Hereford	...	...	...	135
Kington ...	...	31	19	Kington	...	...	155
Ledbury...	...	13	16	35	Ledbury	...	120
Leominster	...	11	13	21	24	Leominster	137
Pembridge	...	19	15	6	29	7	150
Ross	...	26	14	33	13	27	124
Weobly ...	...	19	11	8	27	9	147
						5	25
						25	Weobly

# INSPECTION TABLE FOR THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

<i>Bounded by</i>	<i>Extent.</i>	<i>Contain.</i>	<i>Sends to Parliament.</i>	<i>Produce and Manufacture.</i>
Shropshire on the north.	In length from north to south about 38 miles.	11 Hundreds 1 City	8 Members, <i>7/12.</i>	The principal produce of this county is apples, wool, wheat, and the unrivalled breed of cattle.
On the east by Worcestershire and Gloucestershire.	In breadth from east to west about 35.	2 Borough towns 5 Market towns	2 for the county 2 for the city of Hereford	The manufactures (exclusive of making cider) are principally confined to the making hats and gloves, the latter of which is, however, on the decline.
On the south by Monmouthshire.	In circumference 108 miles.	221 Parishes About 800,000 acres 20,061 Houses.	2 for Leominster And 2 for Weobly.	
And on the west by Brecknockshire and Radnorshire.		103,243 Inhabitants		

Herefordshire is in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Hereford.

# AN ITINERARY

OF ALL

THE DIRECT AND PRINCIPAL CROSS ROADS

IN

HEREFORDSHIRE,

In which are included the STAGES, INNS, and

GENTLEMEN'S SEATS.

*N. B. The first Column contains the Names of Places passed through ; the Figures that follow shew the Distances from Place to Place, Town to Town, and Stages ; and in the last Column are the names of Gentlemen's Seats and Inns. The right and left of the Roads are distinguished by the letters R and L.*

## LONDON TO HEREFORD.

Tyburn Turnpike to Bayswater	$\frac{3}{4}$	Kensington Palace, H. R. H. the Duke of Sussex, L. ; at 2 miles distance Holland House, Lord Holland.
Kensington Gravel Pits	$\frac{3}{4}$ 1½	
On L. a T. R. to Kensington.		
Shepherd's Bush	1½ 3	
Acton	2 5	At entrance, see Berrymead Priory, late the seat of E. F. Akers, Esq. L. ; on R. see Friars Place, W. Learmouth, Esq. ; through Acton, Fordbrook House, — Duval, Esq. R.
Ealing Common	1 6	Elm Grove, Lady Carr, L. ; at Ealing, Spencer Perceval, Esq. and the Manor House, — Clifton, Esq. L. ; ½ mile dis- tant, Hanger Hill, George Wood, Esq. ; Hunger Vale, J. R. Wood, Esq. R.
Hanwell	2½ 8½	
Cross the Brent, R.		Before see Hanwell Park, Sir John Copley ; and Hanwell

			Cottage, Miss Caswall; and at Hanwell Lawn House, — Lawson, Esq. R.
SOUTHALL	1	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inns—Red Lion, White Hart.
Hayes Bridge	1	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Cross the Padding- ton Canal.			
Hayes End	2	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	Before see Hayes Park, — Wood, Esq. L.; Hayes End Park, R. W. Blencowe, Esq. and Hillingdon Place, the Misses Trusler.
Hillingdon	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	The Vicarage, Rev. Dr. Hodg- son; a little farther Hilling- don Grove, — Cricket, Esq. and Hillingdon Lodge, F. Bent, Esq. L.
UXBRIDGE	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	Before is Hillingdon House, R. H. Cox, Esq. R.; entrance of Uxbridge, $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from the road, Belmont House, R.; 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distant on L. Cowley Grove, Charles Birch, Esq. Inns—King's Arms, Three Tuns, White Horse.
Cross the Coln, R. and the Grand Junction Canal and enter Bucking- hamshire.			
Neals, Bucks.	$\frac{3}{4}$	15 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Red Hill	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{3}{4}$	Langley Park, Sir R. B. Har- vey, Bart. L.; Denham Fishery, J. Drummond, Esq.; Denham Place, Benjamin Way, Esq.; Denham Court, F. Lawley, Esq., and Den- ham Mount, N. Snell, Esq. R. Inns—Hare and Hounds.
Tatling End	$\frac{3}{4}$	18	Beyond the 19 mile stone, Wood- hills, W. Budd, Esq. R.
On R. a T. R. to Amersham			
Gerard's Cross	2	20	At Maltman's Green, Mr. Ser- jeant Peake, R. Inns—White Hart, Bull.
BEACONFIELD	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	23 $\frac{1}{4}$	Near is Wilton Park, J. Dupree, Esq. R.; beyond on L. Hall, Barn, Rev. H. Waller. Inn—Saracen's Head.



Hotspur Heath	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	24 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inn— <i>The King's Head.</i>
Londwater	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Wycombe Marsh	1	27	Inn— <i>Red Lion.</i>
HIGH WYCOMBE	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	29	<i>Wycombe Abbey, Lord Carrington, L.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Amersham, on L. to Great Marlow.			Inn— <i>Red Lion.</i>
West Wycombe	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	31 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Before Wycombe Park, Sir J. Dashwood King, Bart. L.</i>
Ham Farm	$\frac{3}{4}$	32 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Great Marlow.			
Stoken Church, Oxon	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	36 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Wormsley, J. Fane, Esq. L.; from Stoken Church Hill see in the bottom before you Rowant Aston, T. P. Wickham, Esq.; and nearly opposite Sherburne Castle, Earl of Macclesfield. L.</i>
			Inn— <i>White Hart.</i>
Postcombe	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	40 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$ a mile before <i>Lewknor, R. A. Jodrell, L.; Thame Park, Miss Wickham, R.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Thame.			Inn— <i>Plume of Feathers.</i>
Tetsworth	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	42 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inns— <i>Royal Oak, Sum.</i>
The Three Pigeons	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	44 $\frac{1}{4}$	<i>Great Hastey, — Blackall, Esq. L.; Ricot Park, Earl of Abingdon, and <math>\frac{1}{2}</math> a mile beyond the Three Pigeons at Waterslock, W. H. Ashurst, Esq.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Thame, on L. to Wallingford.			
Wheatley Bridge	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	47 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Holton Park, Elisha Biscoe, Esq. R.</i>
Cross the Thame, R.			Inn— <i>Crown.</i>
Wheatley	1	48 $\frac{1}{2}$	<i>Cuddesden Palace, Bishop of Oxford, R.; 1 mile beyond Wheally on L. Shotover House, George Schutz, Esq.</i>
Over Shotover Hill, on L. a T. R. to Oxford, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile farther on R. to Islik.			
Headington	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	52	<i>Sir Joseph Lock; Edward Latimer, Esq., and the Rev. T. Horwood, R.</i>
On L. a T. R. to Wheatley, by Shot- over.			Inn— <i>Catherine Wheel.</i>



St. Clement's Turnpike	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	53 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Henley. Cross the Charwell, R.			
Oxford	$\frac{1}{2}$	54	Inns—Angel, King's Arms, Mitre, Roe Buck, Star.
Cross the Isis, R.			
Botley Hill, Berks	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	55 $\frac{1}{4}$	Beyond see Wytham Abbey, Earl of Abingdon.
On R. a T. R. to Farrington.			
Eynsham Bridge	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	59	
Cross the Isis, R.			
Eynsham, Oxford.	$\frac{1}{2}$	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	Eynsham Hall, J. Buxton, Esq.
Newland Turnpike	5	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On R. a T. R. to Woodstock. Cross the Windrush, R.			
WITNEY	$\frac{1}{2}$	65 $\frac{1}{2}$	Staple Hall Inn.
On L. two T. R.'s to Bampton.			
BURFORD	7	72 $\frac{1}{4}$	The Priory, W. J. Lenthall, Esq. R.; 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant on L. at Bradwell, Broadwall Grove House, W. Hervey, Esq.
On R. a T. R. to Chipping Norton and Stow, on L. to Farrington and to Cirencester.			Inns—Bull, George.
Little Barrington, Gloucestershire.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	Barrington Park, Lord Dynevor, R.; beyond Little Barrington on L. are Dutton Lodge unoccupied, and Barrington Grove, E. Greenway, Esq.
NORTHLEACH	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	81 $\frac{1}{4}$	Beyond see Stowell Park, Mrs. Hambridge.
On R. a T. R. to Stow; on L. the Footway to Cirencester.			Inns—King's Head, Sherborne Arms.
Frogmill Inn	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	88	See from the hill a fine prospect over the rich vale of Evesham, Cheltenham, Tewkesbury, and Worcester, bounded by the Malvern Hills, Frogmill Inn.
On R. a T. R. to Gloucester through Whitcombe; on R. to Stow.			
Dowdeswell	2	90	Sandywell Park, Miss Timbrell R.

Charlton Kings	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	Charlton Park, Mrs. Prinn, R.
Cadnall	$\frac{3}{4}$	93 $\frac{1}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to Stroud.			
CHELTENHAM	1	94 $\frac{1}{4}$	Georgiana House, E. B. Lind, Esq. R.; and on the hill Hew- lets, James Agg, Esq.
			Inns—Fleece, George Hotel, Lamb, London Hotel, Plough Hotel.
Bedlam	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	96	
On R. a T. R. to Tewkesbury, on L. to Heyden's Elm, and again on L. to Cirencester.			
GLOUCESTER	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	103 $\frac{3}{4}$	A little before see Margaret and Magdalen Hospitals, at Matson, Matson House, Mrs. Niblett. L.
On R. a T. R. to Tewkesbury, on L. to Bath and Bris- tol. Cross the Severn, R. and the Gloucester Canal to			Inns—Bell, Booth Hall, King's Head.
Highnam	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	106	Highnam Court, Sir R. W. Guise, Bart. R.; beyond in the road to Chepstow, High Grove, Mrs. Evans, L.
On R. a T. R. to Newent, on L. to Chepstow			
Churcham	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	107 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Huntley Turnpike	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	111	
On L. a T. R. to Mitchel Down.			
Durley Cross	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	112 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Longhope	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	114 $\frac{1}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to Mitchel Dean.			
Lea	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	115 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Ritford, Herefordsh.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	117 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Weston	1	118 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Ross	2	120 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inns—King's Head, King's Arms, Swan
On R. a T. R. to Ledbury. Cross the Wye, R.			
Wilton	$\frac{3}{4}$	121	

On L. a T. R. to Monmouth.			
Peterston	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	123 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Harewood End Inn	3	126 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Great Birch	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	128 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 mile distant, Bryngwin, J. Phillips, Esq. and 1 mile beyond Meend Park, T. H. Symond, Esq. L.
Crossin Hand, T.G.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	130 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Monmouth.			
Callow	$\frac{3}{4}$	131 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Aberguenny, cross the Wye, R.			
HEREFORD	4	135 $\frac{1}{4}$	Inns—Black Swan, City Arms, Greyhound, Green Dragon Hotel, Mitre.

COMB TO RIFORD,  
THROUGH HEREFORD.

Comb to Byton Lane	2	2	One mile and a half beyond Byton Lane, in the road from Mortimer's Cross to Presteign, Shobdon Court, William Hanbury, esq. L.
On L. a T. R. to Leominster, by Shobdon and Ten- bury.			
Cross the Ar- row River			
Pembridge	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	
At Pembridge on R. a T. R. to Kington			
Eardland Road	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	
About two miles beyond on L. a T. R. to Leominster, on R. to Hay.			
— — —			
Two miles beyond Eardland Road on L. a T. R. to Leo- minster, on L. to Hay.			Burton Court, W. Evans, esq. L.

Stretford Bridge	3	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	Hide Field, J. Cheese Carpenter, esq. R.
— — —			
West Hope	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	Robin Hood's Butt, ——— R.
New Inn	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	At Canon Pyon, Mr. Thomas.
— — —			Tillington Court, Rev. E. Eckley. R. At Burgill, — Biddulph, esq. R.
Three Elms	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	
White Cross	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	
At White Cross, on R. a T. R. to Weobly, Pembridge, and King-ton			
HEREFORD	1	20 $\frac{3}{4}$	Inns — City Arms Hotel, Green Dragon, Greyhound, Mitre, and Maidenhead.
At Hereford on L. T. R.'s. to Mordiford, Ledbury, Worcester, Bromyard, and Leominster; and a little beyond on R. a T. R. to Abergavenny			
Cross the Wye River to Callow	4	24 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Cross in Hand, T. G.	$\frac{3}{4}$	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On R. a T. R. to Monmouth			
Great Birch	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	27 $\frac{1}{4}$	Brydgwin, Jas. Phillips. R.; and a mile beyond is Meend Park, T. P. Symons, esq.
— — —			Aramstone.

Harewood End } Inn	21½	29½	Sir Hungerford Hoskins, bart. L.
— — —			Pengethley, Rev. Powell Symonds, L.
Peterstow	3	32¾	
Wilton	2½	35	
At Wilton on R. a T. R. to Mon- mouth.			
Cross the river Wye.			
Ross	¾	35½	Hill, Kingsmill Evans, esq. R.
At Ross on L. a T. R. to Ledbury.			
Weston and New- ent	2	37½	
Riford	1	38½	

## LUDFORD BRIDGE TO WELSH NEWTON,

THROUGH LEOMINSTER AND HEREFORD.

Ludford bridge to			Ludford Park, E. L. Char- ton, esq. R.
Overton	2	2	
Bilberry	2	4	
Portway	1½	5½	
Road to Orleton	¾	6	
On L. a T. R. to Tenbury, on R. to Presteign and Kington.			
Luston	2½	8½	Berrington, Lady Rodney, L.
Cross the Leo- minster Canal.			
On L. a T. R. to Tenbury.			
Cross the river Lugg.			

14	ITINERARY OF THE	
LEOMINSTER	2½ 11	Inns — Red Lion, King's Arms, Oak.
On L. a T. R. to Bromyard, on R. to Kington, Hay, and Presteign.		
Ivington Bridge	1½ 12½	
Cross the Arrow River.		
Wharton	1¾ 13¾	
— — —		Hampton Court, J. Arkwright, esq.
Hope	1¼ 15	Winsley, T. Berrington, esq. R.
Dinmore Hill.	1 16	Burghope, an ancient mansion, formerly the seat of Sir J. D. Goodyere, bart. R.; and at Dinmore, Rev. Mr. St. John, R.
Wellington	2¾ 18¾	
Morton	14 20	At Morton, W. Hayton
Holmer	2½ 22½	
HEREFORD	4½ 27	Inns — City Arms Hotel, Green Dragon, Greyhound, Mitre, and Maidenhead.
At Hereford, on L. T. R. to Bromyard and Worcester; on R. to Hay and Kington.		
Cross the river Wye.		
On R a T. R. to Abergavenny.		
Callow	4 31	
Cross in Hand, T. G.	4 31½	
On L. a T. R. to Ross.		
Wormelow Tump Inn	1¼ 33½	Bryngwin, J. Phillips, esq. R.

			<i>The Meend, T. Symons, esq.</i>
			<i>R. Lyson House, Abraham Whittaker, esq, L.</i>
St. Weonard's	4	37½	<i>Capt. Farmar</i>
Welsh Newton	4¼	41¼	

## UPPER SAPY TO ALTERINES.

THROUGH BROMYARD AND HEREFORD.

Upper Sapy to			
Tedstone Wafer	2¾	2¾	
Sandy Cross	2	4¾	
On L. a T. R.			
to Clifton			
BROMYARD	2	6¼	Inns — <i>Falcon, and King's Arms.</i>
On L. a T. R.			
to Worcester, on R			
to Leominster.			
About 3 miles			
beyond Bromyard,			
on L. a T. R. to			
Ledbury.			
Stoke Lacy	4	10¾	[ <i>Westwood</i>
Burley Gate	2	12¾	<i>At Burley Gate, Mrs</i>
Withington	}	3¾ 16½	<i>H. Unitt, esq.</i>
Marsh			
Lugg Bridge	2¼	18¾	
Cross the river			
Lugg			
A little beyond			
Lugg Bridge on			
R. a T. R. to Leo-			
minster.			
HEREFORD	2	20¾	Inns — <i>City Arms Hotel, Green Dragon, &amp;c.</i>
			<i>Belmont, J. Matthews, esq.</i>
			<i>L. About four miles be-</i>
			<i>yond Hereford, Allens-</i>
			<i>moor, Edmund B. Pate-</i>
			<i>shall, esq. L.</i>



Goose Pool	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$24\frac{1}{2}$	
Willock's Bridge	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$26\frac{3}{4}$	
Wormbridge	3	$29\frac{1}{4}$	At Wormbridge, E. B.
Cross the Worme River.			Clive, esq.
Kenderchurch	$2\frac{1}{4}$	32	At Kentchurch, Kentchurch
			Park, John Scudamore,
			esq. L.
Pontrilas	$\frac{3}{4}$	$32\frac{3}{4}$	Pontrilas.
Cross the Munnow River			
Rowlston	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$34\frac{1}{4}$	
Alterines	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$37\frac{1}{2}$	

## KINGTON TO LITTLE LONDON.

THROUGH HEREFORD AND LEDBURY.

Kington to			
Lion's Hall	3	3	
Bond's Green	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	
About 3 miles beyond Bond's Green on L. a T. R. to Leominster, on R. to Hay.			
— — —			Swansfield House,
			J. W. Weston, esq. R.
WEOBL	4	$8\frac{1}{2}$	Garnston Castle, Sam. Pep-
— — —			loc, esq. R. Grange House,
			R. P. Knight, esq. L.
Wormsley	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$11\frac{1}{4}$	
Brinsop Court	2	$13\frac{3}{4}$	At Brinsop Court,
Tillington	$1\frac{1}{4}$	15	Tillington Court, Rev. E.
			Eckley, L. On R. of
			Credenhill, the Magna
			Castra of the Romans, Rev.
			John Eckley.



			At Burghill, B. Biddulph, esq. L.
Three Elms	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	17 $\frac{3}{4}$	
On L. a T. R. to Kington.			
White Cross	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	19	
HEREFORD	1	20	Inns.—City Arms Hotel, Green Dragon, &c.
Tupsley	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Cross the river			
Lugg.			Newport, Rev. Mr. Lilly, L.
Lugwardine	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	23	
Bartestree	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	Longworth, R. Phillips, esq.
Cross the Frome			R. From Longworth, see
river.			across the river Wye, Ra-
			therwas, C. Bodenham,
			esq. and Holm, the Duke
			of Norfolk.
Dormington	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	26	Dormington, on R. in the
At Dormington			road to Hereford by Mor-
on R. a T. R. to			diford, Sutton Court, James
Mordiford Bridge.			Hereford, esq.
Stoke Edith	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	Edward Foley, esq. R.
Torrington	1	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Pool End	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	30 $\frac{3}{4}$	
The Trumpets	1	31 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Ledbury Mills	3	34 $\frac{3}{4}$	
On L. a T. R.			
to Bromyard.			
LEDBURY.	1	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	Inns—George, Feathers.
At Ledbury on			Eastnor Castle, Earl Somers;
L. a T. R. to Wor-			and in the Colwell road
cester, on R. to			to Great Malvern, Hope
Ross.			End, E. M. Barrett.
Little London	S	38 $\frac{1}{4}$	

## HEREFORD TO KINGTON,

THROUGH STRETTON.

HEREFORD to White Cross	1	1	
On R. a T. R. to Kingston by Weobly.			
King's Acre, } Green Man }	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
On L. a T. R. to Hay.			
Stretton		3 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Creden Hill	1	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	At the foot of Creden Hill, the Magna Castra of the Romans, Rev. J. Eckley,
Mansel Lacy	2	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	Foxley Hall, Uvedale Price, esq.
Yazor	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Norton	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Eccles Green	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	
About one mile and a half from Eccles Green on R. a T. R. to Leomin- ster; and half a mile farther on L. to Hay.			
— — —			Sarnsfield House, J. W. Wes- ton, esq. R.
Wonton	3	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	Newport House, — Foley, esq. L.
Lyon's Hall	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	17	Eyewood House, Park, and Woods, Earl of Oxford, near which is Titley Court, William Grenby, Esq. R.
On R. a T. R. to Hereford, by Weobly; and one mile farther a T. R. to Hereford, by Pembroke.			
Pentress	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	

*Beyond Pectress  
on L. a T. R. to  
Hay*

*Cross the Arrow  
river.*

KINGTON

1½ 20

Inns—*King's Head, Oxford  
Arms.*

## HARDWICK COURT TO HEREFORD,

### BY HANMER'S CROSS.

Harwick Court  
to

Clockmill

Bredwardine

*Cross the Wye  
river to*

Hanmer's Cross

*At Hanmer's  
Cross on L. a T. R.  
to Kington.*

Portway

2 2

3 5

2 7

1½ 8½

*At Hardwick, John Stallard,  
Esq.*

*Letton Court, J. Blissett, Esq.  
L.*

*Monington, the property of  
Sir George Cornwall, Bart.  
R.; and on the south side  
of the Wye, nearly oppo-  
site Mocca Court, Sir George  
Cornwall, Bart.*

*Garnons, Sir J. G. Cotterell,  
Bart. L.*

Bridge Sollars

New Ware

Sugwas Pool

King's Acre, }

Green Man }

*On L. a T. R. to  
Kington by Yazor.*

White Cross

*On L. a T. R. to  
Kington, by Wco-  
bly.*

2½ 11½

1½ 12½

1 13½

1 15

1½ 16½

LAYSTER'S HILL TO CLIFFORD,  
THROUGH LEOMINSTER.

Layster's Hill to Kimbolton	3	2	
Stocktonberry Cross	2	4	
On R. a T. R. to Ludlow.			
Cross the river Lugg.			
LEOMINSTER	2	6	Inns— <i>Red Lion, King's Arms, Oak.</i>
On R. a T. R. to Ludlow by Portway, on L. to Hereford.			
A mile beyond Leominster on R. a T. R. to Presteign.			
Cross the Arrow river.			
Monkland	2½	8½	<i>Burton Court, W. Evans, Esq.</i>
— — —			
Two miles and a half from Monkland on R. a T. R. to Pembridge, on L. to Hereford.			
Great Delwyn	3½	12	<i>Henwood, Lacon Lambe, esq. L. Newton, Thomas Phillips, esq. R.</i>
— — —			
Division of the Road	2¾	14¾	
On L a T. R. to Weobly; and a little farther on R. to Kingston			

Sarnsfield	14	16	Sarnsfield Court, J. Webb
On L a T. R.			Weston, esq. R.
to Hereford, and a			
little farther on R			
to Kington,			
Kinnersley	1	17½	At Kinnersley, Kinnersley
Near Willersley			Castle, J. C. Clarke, esq.
on R. a T. R. to			
Kington, on L. to			
Hereford.			
Willersley	3½	21½	
Winforton	1	22½	
Whitney	2	24½	At Whitney, Whitney Court,
Cross the River			T. Dew, esq.
Wye.			
Clifford.	2¼	26¼	

## HEREFORD TO STIFFORD BRIDGE,

## THROUGH NEWTON.

Hereford to		
Lugg Bridge	2	2
Cross the River		
Lugg.		
On L. a T. R. to		
Bromyard.		
Shucknell	4	6
Newtown	2	8
Eggleton Bridge	1	9
Cross the Loddem		
River.		
Eggleton	¾	9¾
Five Bridges	2	11¼
Cross the Frome		
River.		
A little farther		
on L a T. R. to		
Bromyard.		
Turn on the R		
and then on the L		
to		

Fromes Hill	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	13	Rev. J. Hopton.
Ridgeway Cross	3	16	
Stifford Bridge	1	17	
<i>Cross the Cradley Brook, and enter Worcestershire.</i>			

### LITTLE HEREFORD TO BYTON LANE, THROUGH ORLETON.

Little Hereford to <i>Cross the Kingston Canal.</i>			
Brimfield Cross <i>On R. a T. R. to Ludlow.</i>	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Brimfield <i>At Brimfield on L. a T. R. to Leominster, turn to the R. and a little farther on R. to Ludlow.</i>	$\frac{3}{4}$	2	
Orleton <i>Division of the Road</i>	2	4	
<i>On R. a T. R. to Ludlow, on L. to Leominster.</i>	$\frac{3}{4}$	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Cockgate	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	7	
— — —			<i>At Croft Croft Castle, R. Rev. M. Kevill.</i>
Mortimer's Cross <i>On L. a T. R. to Leominster, on R. to Ludlow.</i>	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Easthampton	1	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
— — —			<i>Shobdon Court, Wm. Hanbury, esq. L.</i>
Byton, Lane	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	

On L. a T. R.  
to Leominster, by  
Shobdon on R. to  
Presteign,

ASTON TO STAPLETON CASTLE,  
THROUGH LENTHALL.

Aston to			Downton Castle, T. R.
			Knight, esq. R.
Elton	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	
Lenthall	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	
Wigmore	$1\frac{1}{2}$	4	At Wigmore, Wigmore Hall,
On L. a T. R. to			and about two miles to the
Mortimer's Cross.			L. Croft Castle, Rev. M.
			Kevill.
Dickendale	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$5\frac{1}{4}$	
Over Darvold			
Forest to			
Lyngen	$2\frac{1}{4}$	8	
Willey Cross	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$9\frac{1}{2}$	
Stapleton Castle	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$11\frac{1}{4}$	



## LIST OF FAIRS IN HEREFORDSHIRE.



- Brampton.* June 22, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, and wool.
- Bromyard.* A great market, last Monday in January; Thursday before March 25, horned cattle and horses; May 3, Whit-Monday, Thursday before St. James, July 25; Thursday before October 29, for horned cattle and sheep.
- Dorstone.* April 27, May 18, September 27, November 18, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, and pigs.
- Hereford.* Tuesday after Candlemas, February 2, for horned cattle, horses, and hops; Wednesday in Easter-week, horned cattle and horses; May 19, a pleasure fair and toys; July 1, horned cattle and wool; Oct. 20, horned cattle, cheese, and Welsh butter; Great market, Wednesday after St. Andrew's-day.
- Huntingdon.* July 18, November 13, pedlary, horned cattle, horses, sheep, lambs, and a great fair for yarn.
- Kingsland.* October 11, for horned cattle, horses, hops, cheese, and butter.
- Kington, or Kyneton.* Wednesday before February 2 and Wednesday before Easter, Whit-Monday, August 2, September 4, for horses and cattle of all sorts.
- Ledbury.* First Monday after February 1, for horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, &c.; Monday before Easter, May 12, for horned cattle and cheese; June 22, ditto and wool; October 2, horned cattle, hops, cheese, and pigs; Monday before St. Thomas, Dec. 21, horned cattle, cheese, and fat hogs.
- Leominster.* February 13, Tuesday after Mid-Lent



Sunday, May 2, for horned cattle and horses; July 10, for horned cattle, horses, wool, and Welsh butter; September 4, for horned cattle, horses, and butter; November 8, for horned cattle, hops, and butter; Great market third Friday in December.

*Longtowne*, near *Bishop's Castle*. April 29, and September 21.

*Leintwardine*. Wednesday week before Easter.

*Orleton*. April 24, for horned cattle.

*Pembridge*. May 12, Nov. 22, for horned cattle.

*Ross*. Holy Thursday, horned cattle and sheep; Corpus Christi, for horned cattle and cheese; July 20, horned cattle, horses, sheep, and wool; Thursday after October 10, for horned cattle, cheese, and butter; December 11, horned cattle and pigs.

*Weobly*. Holy Thursday, for horned cattle and horses; three weeks after Holy Thursday, for ditto and coarse linen cloth.

*Wigmore*, near *Bromyard*. April 16, May 6, August 5, for horned cattle, horses, and sheep.

## LIST

OF

### BANKING HOUSES IN THE COUNTY.

Name and Place.	Firm.	On whom they draw.
Hereford City Old Bank.. ...	} Webb and Co...	} Cocks and Co.
Hereford City & County Bank.. }	Bodenham, Phi- lips, and Co., }	Perring and Co.
Leominster. .... }	Coleman, Smith, and Co. }	Lubbock and Co.
Ledbury and He- refordshire. .. }	Webb and Co. .... }	Cocks and Co.

## TITLES

### CONFERRED BY THE COUNTY.

*Hereford* is a Bishop's See, and gives the title of Viscount to the Devereux family—*Leominster* gives that of Baron to the Fermors—*Ross* the same to the Herberts: Wilton Castle, that of Earl, Viscount, and Baron, to the Egertons.

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### CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

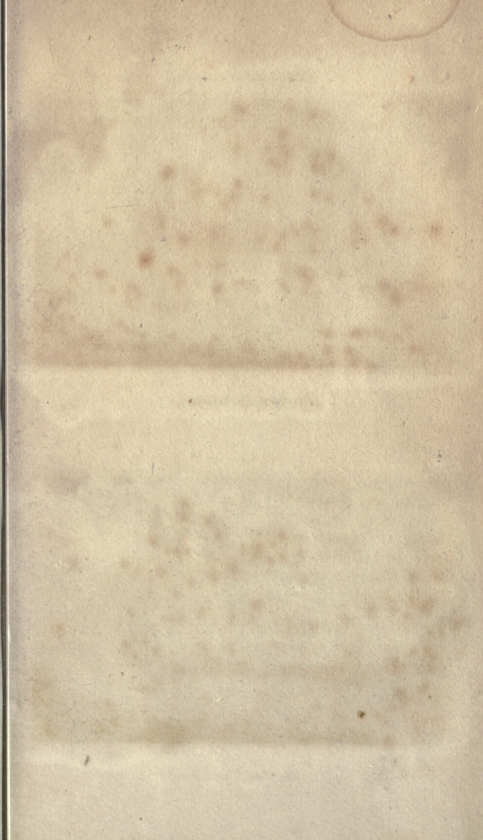
Herefordshire is divided into eleven hundreds:—Wigmore, Woolphy, Huntingdon, Stretford, Broxash, Gremworth, Euras Lacy, Webtree, Ludlow, Wormelow, and Greytree; these are subdivided into 221 parishes, containing one city, (Hereford) two borough towns, Leominster and Weobly, and five other market towns. It is included in the Oxford circuit, in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Hereford.

The Bishopric of Hereford contains the greatest part of Salop, four parishes in the county of Monmouth, six churches and chapels in Montgomeryshire, eight in the county of Radnor, twenty-one in that of Worcester, and the whole county of Hereford, with the exception of eleven parishes, making in all, 379 churches and chapels, 166 of which are impropriate.

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### THE QUARTER SESSIONS.

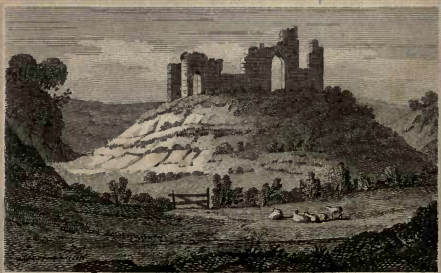
These are held at the New County Hall, at Hereford, where the assizes for the county courts are holden.



HEREFORDSHIRE.



*Hereford Cathedral.*

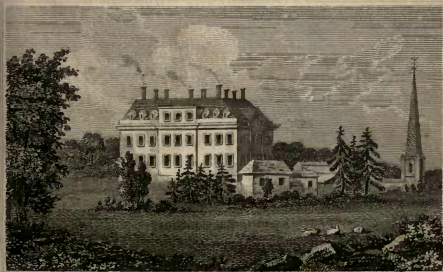


*Clifford Castle.*

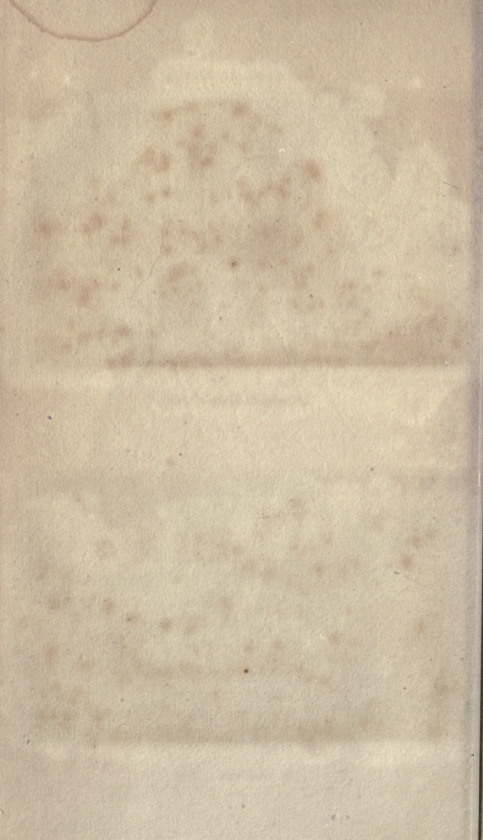
HEREFORDSHIRE.



*Goodrich Castle.*



*Stoke Edith.*



## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

### BOUNDARIES AND EXTENT.

**H**EREFORDSHIRE is bounded on the north by Shropshire; on the north-east and east, by Worcestershire; on the south-east, by Gloucestershire; on the south-west by Monmouthshire; on the west by Brecknockshire; and on the north-west by Radnorshire. It is of an elliptical form, though some detached parishes are situated beyond the general outlines; of these, Farlow is sounded by Shropshire; Rochford is in the county of Worcester, and Lytton Hill is in that of Radnor; a considerable tract of land, called the Futhong, and a few acres on the Devandin Hill, is insulated by Monmouthshire. The greatest extent of this county, from Ludford on the north, to the opposite border, near Monmouth on the south, is 38 miles, and its greatest width, from Clifford on the west, to Cradley on the east, is 35 miles, its circumference being about 108 miles, and containing about 800,000 acres.

### SOIL.

The soil of this county is extremely fertile, yielding fine pasture, and great quantities of corn, &c. Its general character is a mixture of marle and clay, containing a large proportion of calcareous earth. The substrata is mostly lime-stone, of different qualities; in some parts, particularly near Ledbury, assuming the properties of marble, and being beautifully variegated with red and white veins. Towards the western borders the soil is cold, being retentive of moisture, but argillaceous, having a base of soft crumbling stone, which decomposes on exposure to the atmosphere. The eastern side of the county consists principally of a stiff clay, of great tenacity and strength, and in some places of a red colour; a



considerable part of the hundred of Wormelow, which lies to the south, is a light sand. In the vicinity of Hereford, deep beds of gravel are occasionally met with, and the sub-soil of some of the hills consists of a siliceous grit. Fuller's earth is dug near Stoke, and in different parts of the county, red and yellow ochres, and tobacco-pipe clay, are found in small quantities. On the parts bordering on Gloucestershire, iron ore has been frequently met with, though none has been dug of late years; yet from the considerable quantities that have been discovered, imperfectly smelted, and from the remains of hand blomaries, which have been found, it is supposed that some iron-works were established here as early as the time of the Romans.

#### CLIMATE.

The air of this county is in general pure, and consequently healthy, particularly between the Wye and the Severn, which has given occasion to a proverb very common among the inhabitants of this county, "Blessed is the eye between Severn and Wye."

#### NAME AND ANCIENT HISTORY.

This county takes its name from the city of Hereford, which is said to be pure Saxon, and to signify, *the Ford of the army*; or from the Welsh word *Hênfford* (the old road, or way.) Either supposition, certainly, is significant of the situation of the place, which stands on the Wye, and was formerly the barrier between England and Wales. As the two nations were almost always at war one with another, this town was generally the head quarters of such Saxon or English forces as were stationed in the county; and at this place both armies probably forded the river, when they passed out of Wales into England, or out of England into Wales. This account of the derivation of the name is, however, somewhat doubtful, as the ancient British name of the county was *Ereinuc*; and it is therefore conjectured that *Here*, the first part of the



Saxon name, was implicitly borrowed from Erei, the first part of the British; so that except Erei in British, and Here in Saxon, have the same signification, Hereford was not intended to express the ford of the army. What Erienuc signifies is not known, but the Saxons probably only changed the termination, and called the place the ford of Erie, considering Erie not as a significant word, but the proper name of the place. Some, however, have supposed that both the British and Saxon names were derived from Ariconium, the name of an ancient town near this place, mentioned by Antoninus, which is said to have been destroyed by an earthquake, and Hereford to have been built in its stead. Another derivation is assigned to Hereford by the author of the Leominster Guide. After the town had been destroyed by the Welsh, Harold is recorded to have built the walls of the city, and to have strengthened the castle, and after him the place, which is now often termed *Hariford* by the peasantry, was called *Haroldford*, signifying *Harold's Fort*, or *Castle*.

Herefordshire, together with Radnorshire, Brecknockshire, Monmouthshire, and Glamorganshire in Wales, constitute that district which at the period of the Roman invasion was inhabited by the *Silures*, a brave and hardy people, who, in conjunction with the *Ordovices*, or inhabitants of North Wales, for a considerable time retarded the progress of the Roman arms; for it appears that the grand object of all the operations of Ostorius Scapula, who commanded under the Emperor Claudius, was the conquest of these nations, which had chosen the brave Caractacus as their chieftain.

Aulus Plautius, the predecessor of Ostorius, had constructed in the vicinity of the Severn and the Avon, a chain of forts, which, on the arrival of Ostorius, appears to have been occupied by the Roman army, previous to which the country of the *Silures* and *Ordovices* had suffered no diminution from the Roman arms; " the frontier of the one, now the

county of Hereford, (says Mr. Duncomb) met the frontier of the other, Shropshire, on the border of the present county of Worcester; and there presented the nearest, if not the only point of attack, from which Ostorius could make an impression on both nations, or take advantage of circumstances to act against either. This geographical statement has led to a conjecture, that a line of entrenchments, extending on the banks of the river Teme, from the vicinity of Worcester, to the scene of the subsequent battle, was occupied by Caractacus and Ostorius, the former retreating as the latter advanced; and thus drawing on the Romans to a place advantageously formed for defence, and as much as possible detached from any assistance which might be afforded to them in case of their defeat, or any other emergency.

“ This line is supposed to have begun on Malvern Hills, where British and Roman entrenchments are still to be seen. The two next, the one Roman the other British, occurred at Whitburn; they were situated on the opposite sides of a valley, as if opposed to each other; but the traces of both are now almost obliterated. The fourth is at Thornbury, a British post of great strength, between Bromyard and Leominster. The fifth at Croft, another very strong British camp, between Leominster and Wigmore. The sixth is a large Roman entrenchment, called Brandon; and the seventh, which is British, is on *Coxwall-Knoll*, near Brampton-Bryan. Near Downton, also, on the east of Leintwardine, is a small entrenchment, which was apparently thrown up to guard the passage of the Teme, at that place; and was probably connected with the operations supposed to have taken place on the line above mentioned.

“ Recurring to the proceedings of the Britons, we learn from Tacitus, that, in addition to their natural valour, they were now animated by confidence in a leader, whom neither prosperity could

unguard, nor adversity deject; and whose fame had far surpassed that of all his cotemporaries. Inferior in numbers, but trusting to his own military skill and knowledge of the country, Caractacus determined that the territories of the Ordovices should be the scene of his defence; and the spot which he finally chose for the struggle, is described by the historian as in all respects discouraging to his enemies, and favourable to himself. Where nature had not rendered the eminence inaccessible, he piled large stones on each other in the form of a rampart; a stream of a regular depth flowed in his front, and a strong body of troops were stationed on the outside of his works in battle array. The leaders of the various tribes prepared them for the contest, by exciting their hopes, by inflaming their resentments, and by urging every motive, that could animate their valour. Caractacus himself, darting through the ranks, exclaimed, 'Remember, Britons, this day is to decide, whether we shall be slaves or free! Recollect and imitate the achievements of our ancestors, whose valour expelled Julius Cæsar from our coasts, rescued their country from paying tribute to foreigners, and saved their wives and their daughters from infamy and violation!' Inflamed by this address, every one shouted applause, and bound themselves, by their peculiar oaths, to conquer or perish.

"Ostorius was staggered by the resolute appearance and formidable position of his adversaries: but his troops eagerly demanded battle, and exclaimed that Roman valour could surmount every obstacle. Observing, therefore, what points were most proper for the attack, he led on his army, and forded the river without difficulty: but, before they could reach the rampart of stone, the Romans suffered severely from the darts of the Britons, and success long appeared doubtful. At length, forming the testudo, or shell, by locking their shields together over their heads, they reached the wall, and making several breaches in it, brought on a close

engagement. Unprovided with helmets or breast-plates, the Britons could not withstand the attack, but fell back towards the summit of the hill; a few desperate efforts from this point could not avail them, and victory declared for the Romans. The wife and daughter of Caractacus were taken on the field of battle; and his brothers surrendered themselves prisoners; he himself escaped into the country of the Brigantes, and claimed the protection of their queen, Cartismandua; but dreading the resentment of the Romans, which had been recently directed against her territories, she was induced to deliver him bound to Ostorius."

Antiquaries and historians have greatly differed respecting the spot on which this important battle was fought; according to Camden, it took place on the high eminence called *Caer-Caradock*, in Shropshire, about three miles north from the Teme, near the junction of the Jay and the Coln with that river. General Roy, however, in his military antiquities, originally suggested the real scene of this action to have been at Coxwall Knoll, which idea is likewise adopted by Mr. Duncomb, who observes, that the situation, and other circumstances of this eminence, strikingly correspond with the account given by the Roman historians.

"Coxwall Knoll (he continues) is situated in a beautiful valley, near Brampton Bryan; it is luxuriantly covered with wood; one part of it, that towards the south, is within the limits of Herefordshire, whilst that towards the north is within those of Shropshire. On the top is a very strong entrenchment, of British construction, and of much greater extent than that at *Caer-Caradock*. The access is difficult on all sides; on the south an artificial terrace is cut along the brow of the hill in front of the entrenchments; and the river Teme continually varies in its depth and impetuosity, according to the proportion of rain received into its channel from the adjacent hills. Immediately opposite, and at the

distance of one mile, with the river between them, is the Roman post of Brandon, a single square work, with four posts, more strong towards Coxwall than in any other part.

“ In the supposed line of march by Caractacus, and Ostorius, the latter would occupy Brandon, when the former had retreated to Coxwall. Thus situated, the formidable situation of the Britons, and the obstacles to be encountered in attacking them, were all within view of the Romans: they demanded and were led to the combat: fording the river, they reached the rampart, which probably stood on the artificial terrace described by General Roy, and finally defeated the Britons in the entrenchments above. To these conjectures, which are offered with the utmost deference, it may be opposed, that the Teme near Coxwall is but an inconsiderable river, having a smooth and gravelly bottom, and so little water, except when flooded from the hills, that troops may march across it in line for two or three miles together. To this it is replied, that all rivers suffer some decrease, in proportion as the country through which they pass becomes more cultivated; that the words of Tacitus, ‘*præfluebat amnis vado incerto*,’ evidently apply to a river subject to frequent variations; that no difficulties were experienced when the fording took place, ‘*amnenque haud difficulter avadit* ;’ and that probably the Romans exaggerated the obstacles to increase their own reputation.”

A temporary suspension of the war was produced by the defeat and captivity of Caractacus; but the determined spirits of the Silures, were, however, not yet subdued; for, after a short interval of preparation, they again took the field, and by their sudden attacks, whenever circumstances afforded a prospect of success, they kept the Romans in perpetual alarm; they were likewise rendered desperate by a declaration of Ostorius, that the very name of the Silures should be extirpated, as that of

the Sigambri had been in Gaul; so far, however, was the purpose of this general from being accomplished, that he himself fell a victim to the fatigue and anxiety occasioned by the increased success of the Silurian arms.

Neither coercion nor clemency, during the various successive proprætorships for upwards of 20 years, were able to reduce the Silures to Roman bondage; at length, however, the superior discipline of the Roman soldiers, aided by the military talents of Julius Frontinus, their general, obliged this brave people, after relinquishing to the enemy the Forest of Dean, and the present counties of Hereford and Monmouth, to retire into the fastnesses of Wales, from whence, offering no farther resistance to the Roman domination, the complete and undisturbed possession of South Britain was thus insured to the conquerors, who included Herefordshire in the district named *Britannia Secunda*.

*Magna*, now Kenchester,\* and *Ariconium*, near Ross, two of the principal stations of the Itinerary of Antoninus, together with the post of Bravinum, or Brandon, are situated within the limits of this county. The Watling street also enters it on the north from Shropshire, near Leintwardine, whence, after passing the river Teme, it proceeds to the camp of Brandon, and continuing in a southern direction passes by Wigmore, Mortimer's Cross, Street, Stretford, and Portway, to Kenchester, from whence inclining to the south-west, after crossing the river Wye, near the Wear, and passing Kington, Dore, and Long-town, enters Monmouthshire and proceeds to Abergavenny, the *Gobannium* of the Romans: this road is very visible near Madley; and several

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\* In the fields now under cultivation, (belonging to Mr. Hardwick, of Ludenhill) at Kenchester, the remains of Roman pottery, coins, &c. are often ploughed up, and a tessellated pavement, in an imperfect state, was discovered a few years ago.



entrenchments likewise occur in different parts of the line as it crosses Herefordshire. A second Roman road enters this county on the south east from Gloucestershire, which appears to have connected the stations of Glevum, or Gloucester, *Ariconium Blestium*, or Monmouth, and *Burrium*, or Usk. A third Roman road enters this county from Worcestershire, and passing Frome Hill, Stretton-Gransham, or Grandison, Lugg-bridge, Holmer, and Stretton-Sugwas, proceeds to Kenchester; and to the south of the Herefordshire Beacon, is a fourth ancient road, called the Ridgeway, which extends for several miles towards Eastnor in a kind of circular direction.

The Silures, on the decline of the Roman power, were among the first in attempting to regain that independence which they had been the last in surrendering; for uniting with the other Britons, under the successive commands of Uther Pendragon, and Arthur, they once more displayed their bravery in defending the island from Saxon usurpation: their resistance, however, proved unavailing, in consequence of the numerous hordes of these barbarians, which were continually landing upon our shores, and the internal divisions, that subsisted among the natives; so that the Britons being driven to the mountains of Wales, Herefordshire became incorporated with the Saxon kingdom of Mercia; this however, was not effected till the Saxon power in this district had arrived at its greatest height, under the renowned Offa, who, the better to secure his kingdom, which comprehended the greatest part of this county, together with considerable portions of Radnorshire, Monmouthshire, and Shropshire, made a broad ditch, 100 miles in length, some traces of which are still visible; and for still greater security he removed his court to South-town, now Sutton, about three miles north-west from Hereford, where he erected a palace, which he defended end of the entrenchments. The Danes, about the end of the

eighth century, obtained a temporary possession of Mercia, but were expelled by Benthred, the lawful prince, who, after a reign of about 20 years, was himself defeated by these invaders, and deprived of his kingdom; which was soon afterwards subdued by Alured, king of the West Saxons, who annexed it to his own, and chose as his successor Egbert, who having united the various Saxon states into one sovereignty, thus laid the foundation of the glory and pre-eminence of Britain. Herefordshire, however, during the wars which occurred, between the time of the reign of this prince, and the complete subjugation of Wales, suffered greatly from the different incursions made by the brave descendants of the ancient Britons at various periods.

#### POPULATION, &c.

The population of this county consisted, according to the late returns, of 103,243 inhabitants. Herefordshire returns eight members to parliament; viz. two for the county, two for the city of Hereford, two for Leominster, and two for Weobly.

#### RIVERS AND CANALS.

An act of parliament was obtained in 1791, for making a navigable canal from the city of Hereford by the town of Ledbury, to the Severn, at Gloucester, with a lateral cut to the collieries at Newent. The advantages proposed, were an easy communication between the county of Hereford and the ports of Bristol, Liverpool, and Hull; and also parts of South Wales, and those ports, besides easy access to large and valuable mines of coal, and quarries of lime-stone, as well as improvement of lands and estates in the vicinity of the intended line of the canal. The money was to be raised by subscription shares, and the expense of completing the canal, was estimated, by the surveyor, at 69,000*l*. But this estimate was so erroneous, that after 100,000*l*. had been expended, the design was not half completed; the canal terminating at Ledbury, and the loss, to the subscribers, was very considerable. An



act for another canal, to extend from Kington to Leominster, and thence to Stourport, was obtained soon after the former one. Lime and coal from Shropshire, were stated the principal objects of importation, and the produce of the county, those for export. The expense between Kington and Leominster was estimated at 37,000*l.*, and between Leominster and Stourport, at 83,000*l.* A part of the extent between Leominster and Stourport was completed in 1796, without reaching so far as Stourport, and has been found very advantageous to the country through which the canal passes. A miscalculation of the expenses, similar to that of the other canal, prevented the completion of the design.

The principal rivers and streams of Herefordshire are, the Wye, the Lug, the Munnow, the Arrow, the Frome, the Teme, and the Leddon. Of these the Wye is the most beneficial to the immediate purposes of agriculture, in the conveyance of wheat and flour to Bristol, of coal for burning limestone, and also in the conveyance of lime from the kiln to distant parts of the county. The Wye is called, in the British language, *Gwy*, and in the Latin, *Vaga*, from the frequent variations of its course.

“Meander, who is said so intricate to be,

“Has not so many turns and cranking nooks as she.”

“Pleas’d *Vaga* echoes through her winding bounds,

“And rapid Severn hoarse applause resounds.”

About the year 939, Athelstan having reduced the Britons to a temporary subjection, appointed the river Wye to be the boundary between England and Wales. And to this day, the Welsh side abounds with names of places derived from the British language, whilst they rarely occur on the other: “*Inde vagos Vaga Cambrenses, hinc respectit Anglos.*” The Wye rises, as well as the Severn, near the summit of the mountain of Plimlimmon, in Montgomeryshire, and having divided the counties of Breck

nock and Radnor, it enters that of Hereford, near the Hay, between the parishes of Whitney and Clifford.

The barges used on the Wye, which is navigable to Hereford, are from eighteen to forty tons burthen; but either a large or a small supply of water is equally fatal to the navigation. "The latter, (says Mr. Duncomb) is experienced during the greater part of every dry summer, when shoals barely covered with the stream, occur very frequently; in winter, heavy rains, or snow dissolving on the rivers banks, within the county, have the effect of gradually adding a few inches to the depth; but when these rush into its channel, from the mountains of Brecknock and Radnorshire, they occasion an almost instantaneous overflow, and give it a force which defies all the ordinary means of resistance.

Passing Hereford, Ross, Monmouth, and Chepstow, it is received into the channel of the Severn, having watered and adorned a tract of this county from forty to fifty miles in extent, not only equal in its varied beauties to any scenery of a similar kind in England, but worthy perhaps to be compared with the most admired views on the continent. These beauties have been delineated by so many able writers, such as Mr. Mason, Mr. Gilpin, Mr. Ireland, and others, that it is not attempted to detail them here. The general character of the river, between Whitney and Hereford, is mild and pleasing, consisting of delightful reaches, with the most agreeable landscapes and luxuriant scenery on their sides. From Hereford to Ross its features occasionally assume more of boldness; but under Capellar-hill, and between Caple and Fawley, the reaches are again strikingly beautiful.

Approaching Goodrick Castle, between Ross, and Monmouth, a peninsula seven miles in extent is formed by the circuit of the river, whilst the neck of land reaches only one mile between the opposite points.—New and pleasing objects now rapidly succeed each other; and the romantic village of Whit-

church, stupendous hills, and hanging rocks, exhibit altogether a climax of beauties picturesque, sublime, and terrific.

The principal fish taken in the Wye is the salmon, which is well known to leave the sea at various periods, and penetrate, as far as is practicable, towards the sources of the greater rivers, where they deposit their spawn secure from the ebbing and flowing of the tides. Other motives appear also to attract them, as the season of coming is not confined to that of spawning, nor does it seem to depend, in any particular degree, on a greater supply of food than usual; an occasional change of water is probably grateful, if not essential to them. They are found in the Wye at all times, but they are only in perfection from December to August. Their passage up the stream is at present so much obstructed by weirs, that unless the water is swelled far above its usual height, they cannot advance. This circumstance, and the illegal practice of taking the young salmons, provincially termed last springs, have rendered them much less plentiful than formerly, when they abounded in this river.

The price of salmon in Hereford market was formerly one penny per pound; it now varies from eight-pence to half-a-crown, according to the time and other circumstances. The degrees of perfection in which they are taken, vary not only with the season, but also in proportion to the time elapsed since they have quitted the sea. After a short continuance in fresh water, they tend rapidly to impoverishment; and as they are stationary at no other time, but when there is not a sufficient stream to admit of their proceeding, a moderate swell puts the *new fish* in motion, and enables the fishermen to calculate their approach with considerable accuracy. They are very rarely found to advance against a current of very cold or very hard water; when, therefore, the Wye is swelled by snow dissolving in large quantities from the sides of the mountains to

wards its source, which occasionally happens as late as April, or even May, all attempts to take them are suspended for the time. Nor are they frequently intercepted by the fishermen, when returning to the sea, as it is known that the voyage which they have performed has deprived them of their principal value; and in this state they are denominated *old fish*. The spawn, deposited in the river, produces fish of a very minute size, which about April becomes as heavy as a gudgeon, but more taper and delicate in their form; these are in some parts termed salmon-fry, or salmon-pinks, but are here known by the name of *last-springs*, from the date of their annual appearance, and are readily taken by the artificial fly. And if this mode of catching them was alone resorted to, the supply of salmon would probably be far more abundant than it now is. Two kinds of last-springs are found in the Wye; the one, which is the larger and more common sort, leaves the river during the spring floods; the other is termed the gravel last-spring, and is met with particularly on shoals, during the whole of the summer. The general opinion is, that the last-springs, having made a voyage to the sea, return *botchers* in the beginning of the following summer. Botchers are taken from three to twelve pounds weight; they are distinguished from the salmon by a smaller head, more silvery scales, and by retaining much of the delicate appearance of the last-spring. In the third year they become salmons, and often weigh from forty to fifty pounds each. These are generally received opinions respecting the progress of the last-spring to the botcher and salmon; but it must not be omitted, that some able naturalists of the present time contend, that the last spring and botcher are each distinct in their species from the salmon, and that the botcher resembles the *suin* taken in the Welsh rivers, or even that it is the same fish. A question has also been suggested, whether the gravel last-spring may not proceed from the botcher.

Other sea fish occasionally taken in the Wye are, shad, flounders, lampreys, and lamperns; but none of these are met with frequently, or in abundance. A shoal of shad is generally the forerunner of a shoal of salmon; flounders have been caught from February to May; the season for lamperns is during March and April; and that of lampreys, May and June. The lamprey, which is highly esteemed as a delicacy, removes the pebbles from particular spots in the most rapid stream, and thus forms a very insecure retreat, which is provincially termed a *bed*; and in these they are taken with a spear. The female is of a rounder form than the male, and contains a large quantity of spawn, which is deposited in the bed, and fecundated after passing through the body of the fish. The lamprey appears to possess an internal heat, equal perhaps to terrestrial animals.

Besides these, the Wye has the usual kinds of river-fish, including pike, grayling, trout, perch, eels, and gudgeons.

The river Lug rises in Radnorshire, and entering Herefordshire on the north-west border near Stapleton castle, in the hundred of Wigmore, is almost immediately augmented by a stream called the *Wadel*; when taking a direction nearly east, it receives the *Pinsley* (once the *Oney*), at Leominster. Inclining afterwards towards the south, it is aided by the more considerable stream of the Arrow, between Eaton and Stoke, in the hundred of Wolphy, and of Frome, between Lugwardine and Mordiford. The whole is after received by the Wye, immediately below the pleasant village of Mordiford, after passing a fine and fertile part of the county, about thirty miles in extent, without calculating the circumflexions in its course. The Lug is in general too narrow and too much sunk within its banks to be an object of beauty: in some other respects it resembles the Wye, being impatient of control, and liable to sudden overflow, not solely from causes common to most rivers, but also from being dammed

up, or driven back by the higher current of the Wye, at the point of their junction.

A similar inconvenience, with respect to navigation, is experienced when the Lug is swelled by partial rains, which have not equally affected the Wye; a rapidity and force are then given to the Lug in its discharge into the Wye, which it will probably be ever difficult to restrain or correct. An Act of Parliament passed in 1663, and a second about thirty years after, for the purpose of rendering the Lug navigable, but unforeseen difficulties arose, and nothing was effected. A private subscription was applied in the year 1714, with more success for a time, and a few barges navigated as far as Leominster; but either from want of skill in the architect, or from the obstacles before stated, a high flood, which followed soon afterwards, so materially injured the locks and all that had been done, that no attempts to repair or renew the works have been subsequently made. The several kinds of river-fish found in the Wye are also taken in the Lug; but, although the channel of each is particularly deep where they join, the sea-fish common to the Wye are rarely met with in the Lug. This is perhaps to be attributed to a greater degree of cold and hardness in the water of the latter.

The Munnow rises on the east or Herefordshire side of the Hattrel mountains, and is joined near Longtown in the hundred of Ewyas Lacy, by the Escle and Olchon, which have their sources not far from that of the Munnow. Watering a sequestered and pleasant vale in a direction nearly from north to south, it receives at Alteryannis (formerly the seat of the Cecil family), a brook anciently termed the Bothenay, according to Dugdale, but now styled the Hothney, which springs above the once-celebrated abbey of Llanthony, and still flows by its venerable remains. Leaving Alteryannis, the Munnow becomes the boundary between this county and that of Monmouth, receiving near Pontilas the united



streams of the Dore and the Worme; the former of which rises at Dorston (Dore-town) in the hundred of Webtree, and intersects a rich and beautiful valley; the latter rises near Alansmoor in the same hundred. With these aids the Munnow becomes a considerable river, and continues to be the provincial boundary, until it passes Llanrothal, in Wormelow hundred, when it leaves Herefordshire, and flowing by Monmouth, is received by the Wye immediately below the town.

Trout, gudgeons, eels, and cray-fish, are taken in the Munnow.

The Arrow has its source in Radnorshire, and entering this county near Kington, joins the Lug a few miles below Leominster; the name is said to be derived from the swiftness of its current. Its fish are trout, grayling, and cray-fish.

The Frome rises near Wolfrelow, in the hundred of Broxash, and being joined near Stretton-Grandison, by the Loden from Grendon Bishop, Cowarne, &c is received by the Lug near Mordiford. It is liable to frequent and sudden floods. Trout are its principal fish.

The Teme, or Team, enters Herefordshire from the north-west near Brampton Bryan, and passes alternately through parts of this county and Shropshire. Near Tenbury (Temebury) it makes a more considerable circuit into Worcestershire, and returning to Whitbourn, below the town of Bromyard, and receiving a small brook from Sapey, it finally quits Herefordshire immediately after, and discharges itself into the Severn between Malvern-chase and Woobury hill, in the county of Worcester. Pearls have occasionally been found in the muscle-shell of the Teme; and a small fish resembling a last-spring, but weighing about one-third of a pound, and consequently much larger than the last-spring, frequents this river.

The Leadon, or Leddon, rises above Bosbury, in Radlow hundred, gives name to the town of Led-

bury, which it passes, and entering Gloucestershire, becomes tributary to the Severn soon after. It is thus curiously personified and described by Drayton in the seventh song of his *Polyolbion*:

“Ledon, which her way doth through the desert make,

Though near to Dene ally'd, determined to forsake  
Her course, and her clear lims among the bushes hide,  
Lest by Sylvans, (should she chance to be espide)  
She might unmaiden'd go unto the sovereign flood!  
So many were the rapes done on the watery brood,  
That Sabine to her sire great Neptune forc'd to sue,  
The ryots to repress of this outrageous crue.”

A variety of inferior brooks come in aid of the rivers and streams noticed above, many of which contribute to the public benefit by turning mills for grinding corn, and some are useful in the way of irrigation. The Garra and the Gamar abound with cray-fish.

Some springs on the Herefordshire side of Malvern hills, were formerly deemed medicinal, and obtained the flattering name of holy wells. Several petrifying springs are still met with in those hilly parts that contain limestone, near Moccas, Fownhope, Llanrothal, and Wormesley. A small well, near Richard's Castle, in Wolphey hundred, discharges small bones when disturbed, resembling the back bones of the frog.

#### ROADS.

These were once proverbially bad, and are still. A modern writer has, notwithstanding, observed, that Herefordshire abounds with residences of principal families, in spite of its roads. Much, however, has been done within the last thirty years. Where coarse lime-stone, properly broken, is not to be had, the roads suffer from the want of it; the north side of Herefordshire has the worst public roads; the private are universally bad, excepting those situated on sandy or gravelly soils.

#### RAIL ROADS.

A rail-road from Brecon by the way to Kington



has been completed, and opened a communication highly advantageous to the county through which it passes, giving a facility for the conveyance of coal, iron, lime, and other articles, and the traffic is considerable. A rail road has also been projected from the neighbourhood of Abergavenny to Hereford, and is completed as far as Pontrilas, for the conveyance of coals.

## BRIDGES.

To the impetuosity of the Wye is to be ascribed the want of a sufficient number of bridges, to render the communication safe and easy between different parts of the county. In the whole extent of the Wye, through Herefordshire, there was only one bridge, (at Hereford) till the year 1597; an act of parliament was then obtained for erecting a second at Wilton; and since that time, two more have been added, the one at Bredwardine, by an act passed in 1762; and the other at Whitney, by an act passed in 1780. That at Bredwardine, which is built of brick, after sustaining some damage by the great flood of 1795, has continued to resist the impetuosity of the river; but that of Whitney has already been twice destroyed, and was again renewed on stone piers in the year 1802.

## RENT AND SIZE OF FARMS.

Without large farms, improvements in agriculture and breeding would be cramped, if not suppressed, and without *small ones*, Mr. Duncomb has candidly confessed, no persons but those of property could embark in agricultural pursuits; and the lusty peasantry, which forms so material a part of our national strength, would lose the stimulus and reward of industry. Of late years, the practice of consolidating several estates into one, has much reduced the number of small farms, and has left very few opportunities by which an industrious couple can devote their 50l. or 100l. to stock a number of acres proportioned to their capital, and thus bring up a family with some degree of comfort, and some idea of inde-

pendence. This circumstance being known, it operates as a check upon matrimony, tends to licentiousness of manners, and discourages population. At a former period, the parish of Holmer comprised ten farms; this number was afterwards reduced to five. When there were ten farms, the several small farmers lived respectably, maintained their families decently, and inured them to habits of industry, and they reared nearly *double* the stock that was afterwards produced. It may be that they supplied the markets with so much less corn, as the increased demand of their family required, but they made amends in an increased supply of veal, lamb, poultry, and butter, which brought these articles into general and ready use, and kept the prices of others within proper limits.

The temptations to proprietors to consolidate farms are numerous and weighty; the saving in repairs; the facility in collecting rents, and the responsibility of tenants, are all admitted; but every rank in society ought to make some sacrifices in favour of the public. Many instances of this kind have recently taken place in the lowering of rents by several opulent individuals, whose examples, it is hoped, will not be lost upon others, especially the rich clergy, and corporate bodies.

The best arable lands have been rented at an average of twenty shillings an acre, the best meadow, at forty shillings; in the vicinity of towns, some meadows have been let at four pounds an acre. The poorer arable may be rated at ten shillings, or less, and meadows in distant situations, at eighteen or twenty. Payments are invariably made in money: but waggons are lent out for a few days in the year to the landlords, to carry coal.

The greatest estates in the county belong to the Governors of Guy's Hospital, in Southwark, the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Essex, Sir George Cornwall, bart, R. P. Knight, esq, S. Davies, esq, &c. &c.

These are divided into farms, averaging from two to four hundred acres each, and are let to tenants at rents varying with the quality of the soil, proportion of meadow, &c. Unfortunately, only a few of the large estates are occupied by their proprietors.

## TITHES.

These are in very few instances collected in kind. The average composition in lieu of them, varies from three shillings and sixpence, to four shillings in the pound, paid for rent. They are generally paid with reluctance, and considered by the occupiers and proprietors of land, as serious obstacles to agricultural improvement. The effects of tithes, in a religious view, are obvious: they prevent habits of intercourse between the clergyman and his parishioners, and destroy the purpose of his labours. To this system may also be owing, the superior influence of dissenters over their flocks, compared with that of the ministers of the church.

## TENURES AND LEASES.

In Irchenfield, which is a considerable part of the hundred of Wormelow, the tenure of gavel kind has prevailed from the remotest periods to the present time. Thus, in cases of persons dying intestate, the law of primogeniture has no effect, and lands descend, not to the eldest, youngest, or any one son only, but in equal divisions to all the sons together. But the privilege and security of disposing of property by will, are now so fully understood and experienced, that the provisions of this peculiar tenure are seldom resorted to. It is the same in the manor of Hampton Bishop, with respect to the tenure of Borough English, by which the youngest son succeeds to the burgage, tenement, &c. on the death of his father, to the exclusion of his eldest and other brothers. This tenure, like that of gavel kind, is seldom acted upon. Copyhold property is not so common in this as in many other districts. The continual expenses, the vexatious litigations to which it gives rise, and the distress occasioned by it

to families, make it an object much to be wished, that a law should be made, to enable the landlord to purchase the interest of the tenant, or the tenant obtain that of the lord, by a fair and known compensation. Leasehold estates are more common, but are liable to many of the objections against copyhold property. The principal lessors are the Bishop, the Dean, the Chapter, Prebendaries, and other members of the Cathedral Church, the Corporation of Hereford, and other towns, the College of Vicars Choral, &c. Nearly two-thirds of the whole county are supposed to be freehold.

Leases of old dates, were generally binding for twenty-one years; but from the extraordinary advances in the price of grain, landed proprietors have granted them more frequently in three terms of seven years each, determinable at either of those periods, by landlord or tenant. The provisions in the clauses of Herefordshire leases, have few peculiarities. Those granted by R. C. Hopton, esq. of Canon-Frome, after binding the tenant to keep the premises in repair, further stipulate that the landlord, with proper persons, shall have power, once in every year, to survey the state of the buildings, and make a report to the tenant, of what appears necessary to be done on the premises.

#### FARM-HOUSES AND COTTAGES.

The old farm-houses of Herefordshire, as well as other counties, are inconvenient, and the offices ill adapted to the purposes for which they were designed. Water and shelter appear to have been principally consulted, in selecting a spot for building; these are confessedly objects of no trifling importance, but there are other objects also, which require and deserve attention. In the new ones (of which there are many) the defects of the old ones are generally supplied, to the great advantage and comfort of the farmer. The Governors of Guy's Hospital are, in this respect, particularly attentive to the interest and convenience of the tenants. Under the ma-

nagement of James Woodhouse, esq., several of the old houses have been taken down, and others substituted on better sites, and on the most approved plans. When practicable, a gentle declivity towards the south, which implies some eminence, is generally preferred: the building is adapted to the size of the farm to be occupied with it; the walls are constructed with stone, and the covering is of slate.

Particular care is taken that every part of the fold, or yard, shall be distinctly seen from the windows of the room; whether kitchen or parlour, which is most frequently inhabited by the tenant and his family; as much also of the land as possible, is within sight from that or other windows.

The out-buildings form three sides of a square, the fourth of which is occupied by the house and garden wall: the former comprise barns, stables, cow-houses, feeding-stalls, pigsties, cider-mill, and warehouse for the liquor.

Houses and buildings of all kinds are usually put into good repair by the proprietor, at the commencement of a lease, and the tenant engages to preserve them in good condition afterwards; having sometimes the advantage of unconverted timber from the estate when necessary.

## COTTAGES.

These are generally of very humble construction: many have been built on waste ground by their proprietors, whose means were far from adequate to the attainment of comfort and convenience. But ten cottages, upon a much improved plan, were built by the parish of Holmer, some years since, for the accommodation of as many families, and a small garden annexed to each. The introduction of strawberries into the cottagers' gardens, are a valuable addition, combining both pleasure and profit. Part of the waste lands on Aconbury and Shucknell hills, have been particularly applied to these purposes with great success and little trouble.

The red Carolina, or Bath scarlet, are generally preferred, and their fruit sold readily in July, at ten pence per full quart, in the Hereford market.

## CATTLE.

Those of Herefordshire have long been esteemed superior to most, if not all, the breeds in the island. The nearest to them in general appearance, are those of Devonshire and Sussex. Large size, an athletic form, and unusual neatness, characterize the genuine sort; the prevailing colour is a reddish brown, with white faces. The shew of oxen at Michaelmas fair, in Hereford, cannot be exceeded by any annual collection in England.

## SHEEP.

The provincial breed of sheep is termed the Ryeland, from a district in the vicinity of Ross. They are small, white faced, and without horns, the ewes weighing from nine to twelve or fourteen pounds the quarter; the wethers from twelve to sixteen or eighteen pounds. In symmetry of shape, and in flavour, they are superior to most flocks in England: in quality of their wool, they are wholly unrivalled.

Leominster has usually been celebrated as famous for its wool; but possibly it might have been the place of its sale, rather than its growth. However, Philips, the poet writes,

“ Can the fleece

Bœtic, or finest Tarentine compare,

With Lempster’s silken wool?”

Camden styles it “Lempster’s ore,” and Drayton asks  
“ Where lives the man so dull, on Britain’s farthest  
shore,

To whom did never sound the name of Lempster  
ore?

That with the silk worm’s web, for smallness doth  
compare?”

## HOGS.

No one breed of hogs, or *pigs*, as they are provincially termed, are peculiar to Herefordshire.



ENCLOSURES.

New ones here are ditched with posts and rails, on the banks; but quickset, or hawthorn plants, have been more in use since the Agricultural Society of the province has offered premiums for the "greatest quantity of hawthorn quick, properly planted for fencing an estate, or fairly sold by a nursery-man for that purpose." Oak timber is universally used in the construction of gates.

IMPLEMENTS.

Those used for husbandry in this county have few peculiarities. Waggon, intended for turnpike roads, have usually wheels six inches in breadth, carry about three tons and a half in weight, and are drawn by six horses abreast. Carts are also drawn on six-inch wheels, for many purposes, and have gradually superseded the use of the narrow-wheeled carts. The plough very generally resorted to, is the light Lammas, without a wheel; it is drawn by three or four horses, according to the condition of the soil, and was preceded by a long awkward and heavy implement, now entirely out of fashion. The plough now used, is well adapted to the requisite uses in sowing wheat, &c. Cars, that sometimes have a pair of wheels, and sometimes none, are in general use for the common business of the farm.

APPLES, CIDER, &c.

Herefordshire affords plantations of fruit-trees in every aspect, and on soil of every quality, and under every culture; but "the soil best adapted to most kinds of apples (says Mr. Duncomb) is a deep and rich loam, when under the culture of the plough; on this the trees grow with the greatest luxuriance, and produce the richest fruit. Some trees, however, the stire and golden pippin in particular, form exceptions to this general rule, and flourish most in a hot and shallow soil, upon a lime or sand-stone. The best sorts of pear-trees also prefer the rich loam; but inferior kinds will even flourish where the soil will scarcely produce herbage.

“The apple trees are divided into *Old* and *New* sorts; each class comprises what is called *Kernel fruits*; that is, the fruit growing on its own native roots, a distinction from those produced by the operation of grafting. The old sorts are the more valuable, and those which have been long introduced; as the Stire, Golden-pippen, Hagloe Crab, several varieties of the Harvey, the Brandy Apple, Red-streak, Woodcock, Moyle, Gennet moyle, Red, White, and Yellow Musks, Pauson, Fox-whelp, loan and old Pearmain, Dymock-red, Ten-commandments, &c. Some of these names are descriptive of the fruit; and others are derived from the places where they have been found in abundance. The modern varieties derive their appellations from such capricious and various causes, that a correct list cannot be composed: in some instances, the fruit bears a different name even in the same parish. In selecting fruits for cultivation, respect should be paid both to the soil and situation of the intended orchard: where both are favourable, no restraint is necessary; but in cold situations, and unkind soils, the most early fruits are obviously those which may be expected to acquire maturity.

The time for gathering the apples is generally about the middle of October; but this varies according to the season and sort of the fruit. The prevailing practice in gathering is to beat the trees with long slender poles, called *polting lugs*, and as the apples fall, women and children are employed to collect them into baskets; this mode of gathering, is, however, very defective, as both ripe and unripe fruits are thus intermixed, which is detrimental to the production of good cider. In some orchards, therefore, two gatherings are made; the first when the apples begin to fall spontaneously, which is a sure criterion of the ripeness; and again when those that were left green become sufficiently mature.

The principal markets for the fruit liquors of Herefordshire, are those of London and Bristol, from



whence great quantities are sent to Ireland, to the East and West Indies, and to other foreign markets, in bottles. The price of the common cider is generally fixed by a meeting of the dealers at Hereford fair, on the 20th of October annually, and on the average of years varies from 1l. 5s. to two guineas per hogshead, but the value of the stire cider, even at the press, is from 5l. to 15l. per hogshead.

In a plentiful year the produce of the fruit is almost beyond conception, the trees being then loaded even to excess, and frequently break under the weight of the apples; at these times, indeed, the branches are generally obliged to be supported on props, or forked poles. This kind of excessive fruitage, however, seldom occurs more than once in four years; the year immediately succeeding being mostly unproductive. In some of these years of abundance, 20 hogsheads of cider have been made from the produce of a single acre of orchard ground.

The particular era when the plantations of Herefordshire acquired the peculiar eminence which they yet retain, was during the reign of Charles I. when by the spirited exertions of Lord Scudamore, and other gentlemen of the county, Herefordshire "became, in a manner, one entire orchard."

## MINERALS.

Iron ore was discovered in the sandy district of Wormelow hundred, in the time of the Romans, and many of the hard blomares used by them have been met with on Peterstow Common, and also considerable quantities of ore imperfectly smelted. Camden remarks, that the town of Ross was famous for smiths in his time. Of late years, however, no iron has been manufactured in this county, and the very extensive works in the Forest of Dean, have now been stopped a considerable time. Small particles of lead ore have occasionally been found in the lime-rocks situated on the northwest parts of the county. Red and yellow ochres have also been found, with fullers' earth and tobacco-pipe clay.

## AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The first of this kind was established in this county, in 1797, and comprised most of the principal proprietors and occupiers of land in the county. The number of members has been nearly a hundred and fifty. The avowed objects of the society are to excite, by premiums and other means, a general spirit of emulation among breeders and practical farmers; to encourage and reward industry and fidelity in servants; to promote the knowledge of every branch of agriculture; to carry the breeds of cattle and sheep, as to fleece and carcase, to the greatest points of perfection; to improve the breed of horses of the cart kind; to establish a market and sale where opulent and spirited purchasers may always find the best stock, &c. &c.

## LEARNED AND EMINENT CHARACTERS.

John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, a celebrated commander in the reign of Henry V. was slain at the siege of Chatillon in France, in 1453. Robert Devereux, the celebrated Earl of Essex, was born at Netherwood, in 1567. He was beheaded, in 1601, for treason and rebellion. Captain James Cornwall, an excellent naval commander, was born at Bredwardine Castle, and was killed off Toulon, a chain shot depriving him of both his legs, February 27, 1743; he has a noble monument in Westminster Abbey, thirty-six feet high. David Garrick, the British Roscius, born at Hereford, 1716; he died in 1779, and his widow survived him till 1822. Eleanor Gwyn, the celebrated courtesan in the reign of Charles II., was a native of Herefordshire, and had no small influence in procuring the foundation of Greenwich Hospital, she died in 1687. John Kyrle, Pope's man of Ross, was born at Ross, or at Whitehouse, and died in 1724, aged ninety. With an income of only five hundred pounds per annum, he merited all the praises bestowed on him by Pope.

The Hereford Journal is published in that city weekly, on a Wednesday.

## POPULATION.

According to the returns of 1821, Herefordshire contains 2061 inhabited houses, occupied by 21,000 families; males 51,552; females 61,591; total 103,243. The increase of population in the city of Hereford is ascribed to vaccine inoculation, to the peace, and the convenience of a market.

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The following are the peculiar ones used in this county. A pound of fresh butter, eighteen ounces; a stone, twelve pounds; a customary acre, two-thirds of a statute acre; a hop acre, that space which contains a thousand plants, or about half a statute acre; a lug, forty-nine yards square of coppice wood; a wood acre, three-eighths larger than a statute, or as 8 to 5; a day moth, about a statute acre of meadow or grass land, the quantity usually mown by one man in a day; a perch of fencing, seven yards; a perch of walling, sixteen feet and a half; a perch of land, five yards and a half, (as statute;) a bushel of grain, ten gallons; a bushel of malt, eight gallons and a half.

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TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE  
COUNTY OF HEREFORD.*Journey from Comb to Riford, through Hereford.*

COMB is a small village situated at the north-western extremity of the county, on the eastern banks of the Lugg. A short distance to the south of this village, on the western extremity of Wapler Hill, are the vestiges of an extensive camp. The slope of the eminence is finely covered with wood, and its northern extremity is washed by a small river, which forms one of the sources of the above river. The banks and ditches (which are high and very deep) are five-fold, excepting on one side, where the steepness of the ascent is a sufficient security.

At the village of TITLEY, situated about two

miles to the south of Comb, was formerly a Priory, subordinate to the Abbey of Tyrone, in France. On the suppression of the Alien Priories, in the reign of Henry the Fifth, it was given to the college at Winchester, and still belongs to that establishment.

About a mile to the west of Titley, is Eywood, the principal seat of Edward Harley, Earl of Oxford, and Earl Mortimer, who possesses a very considerable extent of landed property in the north-western part of this county. The grounds at Eywood display a great diversity of scenery, and are ornamented with some fine plantations.

On leaving Comb, we proceed in a south-easterly direction, and at the distance of five miles and a half pass through the village of Pembridge, 150 miles from London, formerly a market town, and giving name to the ancient and honourable family of Pembridge, or Brydges, ancestors of the Lord Chandos. This place was part of the estate of the Mortimers, who procured the privilege of a market, and Henry the First granted it a charter of liberties: the market has been long discontinued.

At the distance of about 14 miles from Pembridge, after passing through the villages of West-Hope, we arrive at an angle of the road, distinguished by the remains of a stone cross, called the White Cross, the base of which consists of an hexagonal flight of seven steps, measuring ten feet each in length, but which gradually decrease with the ascent. The first and only remaining stage of the shaft is likewise hexagonal, the height of which is six feet, and the breadth of each face two feet, exclusive of a pillar between each. In these sides are as many niches, containing shields, bearing a lion rampant; the niches are under pointed arches, supported on small columns. Above is an embattled parapet, with the mouldings, and base of a second division of the shaft; this, however, with all the upper part, has been long destroyed: the entire height, in its present state, is 15 feet.

The origin of this cross, according to tradition, is ascribed to Bishop Cantilupe, who is said to have been returning towards Hereford, from his palace at Sugwas, when the bells of his cathedral began ringing, without any human agency, and that in commemoration of such a miraculous event, he erected this cross, on the spot where the sounds had first attracted his notice. Mr. Duncomb has, however, given a much more probable reason for its construction. In the year 1347, he observes, "an infectious disorder ravaged the whole county of Hereford, and as usual, displayed the greatest malignity in the places most numerous inhabited; this created a necessity of removing the markets from Hereford, and the spot of waste ground, on which the cross now stands, was applied to that purpose. In memory of this event, Dr. Lewis Charlton, who was consecrated bishop of Hereford a few years afterwards, caused this cross to be erected; the lion rampant was the armorial bearing of this prelate, and is repeated on his monument in the cathedral, with a similarity which so strictly pervades the whole architecture of the tomb and the cross, as to afford the strongest presumption that this was the real origin of the cross described." One mile beyond White Cross, we arrive at

## HEREFORD,

A city of great antiquity, though the precise era of its origin has not been ascertained. It is supposed by Camden to have arisen when the Saxon Heptarchy was at its height, though he immediately afterwards assigns the reign of Edward the elder as the time of its foundation. It must, however, have been in existence previous to the year 676, or 680; for during the reign of Penda, king of Mercia, who had embraced Christianity, a synod was held here for the purpose of erecting a new see in Mercia, in consequence of which Putta was chosen the first bishop of Hereford; this circumstance clearly evinces that Hereford must have been a place of some

importance at that time; and the probability is that it originated soon after the departure of the Romans, when Magna Castra, or Kenchester, the nearest Roman station, was deserted.

This city, however, whatever was its origin, became the capital of the Mercian kingdom, and had a magnificent church, according to Polydore Virgil, as early as the reign of Offa, and even previous to the present cathedral being founded by that sovereign, in expiation of the murder of Ethelbert, king of the East Angles. The erection of this edifice, together with the various gifts made by the multitude that came to visit the tomb of Ethelbert, who was deemed a martyr, and worshipped as a saint, contributed not a little to the importance of Hereford; its progress was equally flourishing under the West Saxon Kings; and about the time of Athelstan, the city was inclosed with walls, as a security on those sides where it was not defended by the Wye; these walls, which now imperfectly remain, although they have been improved and strengthened at various periods, probably stand (says Mr. Duncomb) on the original foundations. They are 1800 yards in extent, and inclose the city on the east, north, and west sides; towards the south, it has the natural defence of the Wye, and also 50 yards of wall from the western angle towards the bridge: the whole of this side is 550 yards. The gates were six in number, viz. Wye-Bridge Gate, which stood at the south end of the bridge; Friar's Gate, which was situated on the south-west; Einge Gate, on the west; Wide Marsh Gate, on the north; Bishop's Gate, on the north east; and St. Andrew's, since called St. Owen's, on the south-east. Fifteen embattled towers projected from the walls, having embrasures in the shape of crosses, in the centre and sides, for observation, and the discharge of arrows. The distances between these towers varied from 75 to 125 yards: the height of the wall, measuring on the outside, was 16 feet: that of the towers, 34.



Thus the whole circumference of the city, enclosed by the walls and river, was 2350 yards. Speed, in his history, states the walls only to be 1500 paces in extent; and Leland very correctly calls it a goodly mile. The latter writer also observes, that "these walles and gates be right well maintained by the burgesses of the town;" and notices also the additional security derived from "a little brooke that cometh a five miles by west, and circuith [as it still continues to do] the ditches of the walles *ubi non defenditor Vagâ*, and goeth down, leaving the castle on the right hand, and thence dreiving two milles for corne, goeth into Wye a flyte shotte beneath Wye Bridge, and hard beneath the castles."

About the middle of the eleventh century, during the reign of Edward the Confessor, Gryffith, a sovereign of Wales, after conquering the English forces under the command of Ranulph, the governor of Hereford, who had been induced to quit the city and give battle to the Welsh, entered Hereford, which immediately became a scene of pillage and slaughter. The principal inhabitants fled to the cathedral for security; but the entrance being forced, a dreadful carnage ensued, and the church pillaged of its riches, and being set on fire, the flames communicated to the city, the greatest part of which was reduced to ashes; and, according to the Welsh chronicles, nearly 500 of Earl Ranulph's men were slain; and the "Britons returned home with many worthy prisoners, great triumph, and rich spoils, leaving nothing in the town but blood and ashes, and the walls razed to the ground."

Edward, who was then at Gloucester, immediately collected an army, the command of which he entrusted to Harold, son of Earl Godwin, who advancing into Wales, obliged the late successful invaders to sue for peace. Harold, soon afterwards returning to Hereford, fortified it, according to Floriacensis, with "a broad and high rampire." Some writers also ascribe the rebuilding of its walls and



fortifications to Harold, who is likewise said to have erected the castle; but as writers have differed respecting the origin of this castle, we shall insert the following extract from Mr. Duncomb's collections, whose observations respecting it are particularly pertinent. "When Harold rebuilt the walls, it seems highly probable that he founded the castle for the further defence of the town; yet on this point writers are not fully agreed; it is, however, well known, that the policy of Edward the Confessor induced him, in the early part of his reign, to fortify strongly places of consequence, and especially those most accessible or advantageous to his enemies, which was precisely the situation of Hereford, from its vicinity to Wales. *Edoardus, initio principatu, cuncta sibi e republica a primo facienda existimans, loca omnia præsiidiis munire, &c.* But Grafton writes 'that Edward the Elder, son of Alured, in the eighth year of his reign (908) built a strong castle at Hereford:' and a manuscript in the Harleian library mentions, from Holinshed, that 'Griffith, king of Wales, wasted a great part of Herefordshire; against whom the men of that county, and Normans out of the castle of Hereford, went: but Griffith obtained the victory, slaying many, and toke a great prey." Sprott's chronicle also records, *Edwardus Rex. . . . Castrum Herefordiæ . . . ei Villam de Wyggemore condidit . . . cui successit Ethelstanus.*"

"To these accounts it is objected, that had a regular castle existed when Algar and Gryffyth got possession of Hereford, Leland would hardly have represented that it was 'scant fortified' on that occasion; nor would the Welsh chroniclers have omitted to notice what would have added so much to the fame of their heroes, as the reduction of a considerable castle. Camden observes, that the Normans afterwards (i. e. after the conquest) built on the east side of the church, on the Wye, a large strong castle, which some ascribe to earl Milo." Hume also ascribes the building to the Norman Conqueror;

others attribute it to William Fitz-Osborne, first earl of Hereford, after the conquest. Leland writes, 'some think that Heraldus began this castle after he had conquered the rebellion of the Welshmen in King Edward the Confessor's time. Some think that the Lacey's, Earls of Hereford, were the great makers of it; and the Bohuns, Earls of Hereford.' Dr. Stukeley states that the castle was a noble work, built by one of the Edwards before the conquest; and Giraldus Cambrensis, as quoted by Lambarde, attributes the building to 'Randal Poer, when Shyrife of the shyre,' but does not add the date.

"Now Camden's idea, that Earl Milo was the founder, is obviously incorrect; for the castle stood a siege some years before Milo was Earl of Hereford. Leland's report of the Lacys is equally groundless, as none of that family appear to have been Earls of Hereford at any period. The other accounts are, perhaps, best reconciled, by supposing that some rude fortifications, composed simply of earth, and thrown up after the British mode, might have existed before the time of Harold, and might even have acquired the appellation of a castle: that on their site Harold founded a regular work of stone, which his death, in 1066, prevented his finishing; and that the earls, and some of the sheriffs of Hereford, afterwards completed his design.

"The castle (continues our author) occupied a part of the south and east sides of the city, having the river Wye on the south, and being defended by a large and deep moat on the north and east sides, to the angle of which the wall of the city extended. This situation was well calculated for the defence of the cathedral, which nearly adjoined it on the west; and probably that circumstance occasioned a preference to this particular spot, which does not seem well adapted to the general defence of the town.

"The castle comprised two wards; the keep was in the smaller, towards the west, having a strong tower on the top, and a dungeon underneath. Le-

land describes the keep to have been, 'high and very strong, having in the outer wall ten semicircular towers, and one great tower within.' Dr. Stukeley termed it, a 'very lofty artificial keep, walled formerly at top, and having a wall in it faced with good stone.' In the eastern ward were the gatehouse; a chapel dedicated to St. Cuthbert, part whereof (says Leland) is 'opere circulari;' a mill and two dwelling-houses, perhaps intended originally for the accommodation of the governor and his attendants. 'Ther is a fayre and plentiful spring of water (continues Leland) within the castle; and that and the piece of the brooke coming out of the ditch, did drive a mill within the castle.' In every direction must have been capable of very considerable defence against the modes of attack then known; on the south, the ground along the eastern ward, fell almost perpendicularly seven yards to the river: on the east the works stood on earth thrown up five yards, with a deep and broad moat in front, which were all continued on the north, until they reached the wall which inclosed the keep. The dimensions of the greater or eastern ward, measuring on the site of the walls, were nearly as follow: on the south, 175 yards; on the west 100; on the north 175; and on the east 196. The smaller, or western ward, was nearly 100 yards in extent, on the south and east sides; towards the north and west were three sides, each measuring 65 yards. 'There came also an arme of a brooke that runneth through a great piece of the town dyke, by an arche made in the town wall into the castle dyke, and so compassing half the castle (that is the east and the north sides of the larger court) went into Wye; so that with the principall arme of this brooke, and with the arme of it going through the castle dike, and with the maine stream of Wye river, the whole castle was environed; but now the arme of the brooke cometh not through the castle, yet it might soon be returned thither. The second ward where

the dungeon is, was also environed with water; for a piece of the water, that came through the dike, was turned that way.' The entrance was on the north side of the eastern ward, over a great bridge of stone arches, with a draw-bridge in the middle. 'The castle standeth on the left ripe of Wye River, and a little beneath the bridge, and is strongly ditched, *ubi non defenditur flumine*; the walles of it be high and stronge, and full of great toweres: it hath been one of the largest, fayrest, and strongest castles in England.' By the side of the ditch arose a spring, which superstition consecrated to St. Ethelbert: this is situated on the north side of the western ward, and retains a degree of reputation to the present day."

This castle is now almost obliterated, the only vestige of any part of the building being a fragment at the south-west corner, now converted into a dwelling. It seems probable, that this fortress was never effectually repaired after the siege in 1645, though it continued to be garrisoned till 1652, at which time the parliamentary commissioners returned it as 'ruinous' and its materials as worth only 85l. The area of the outer ward, called the Castle Green, is now surrounded by a public walk, which is carried along the site of the walls, and is much frequented from its pleasant situation. On the site of the lower keep of the castle, another walk, still more elevated, and forming a kind of a semicircle, has been made.

In the Domesday Book are several interesting particulars relative to the customs and tenures prevalent in this city and its suburbs, the whole of which prove the consequence which Hereford had attained; though its inhabitants, both within and without the walls, in the same record, are stated to have been only 103 in the time of Edward the Confessor; but this enumeration must have been made subsequent to the destruction of the town by Griffith, the number of houses held under the bishop being stated to have amounted to only 60, though his predecessor

had 98. At this time Hereford was governed by an officer (Præpositus) who was appointed by the crown, and whose consent it was requisite to obtain before any inhabitant could leave the city: "he might then sell his house to any other person who would perform the usual service; but one third part of the price was given to the king's officer. If any inhabitant was unable, through poverty, to discharge the accustomed dues to the crown, his house became forfeited; and the Præpositus was to provide another tenant, and take care that the dues were collected. The owner of an entire dwelling house within the walls, paid seven-pence farthing annually, besides four-pence towards providing war horses; he was also obliged to mow grass in the king's manor of Malden, in the month of August: and to attend one other day, when ordered by the sheriff, to collect hay together. He who kept a horse attended the sheriff three times in the year to the hundred courts, and to that of Wormelow. When the king hunted in Haywood Forest, every house was to furnish one man to assist in taking the game. Other inhabitants not possessing entire dwelling-houses, provided door-keepers for the hall, whenever the king attended in person. On the death of any one who had served with a war-horse, the king was entitled to his horse and arms; where no horse was kept, 10s. were paid to the king; or in default, possession was taken of his house and lands: if any one died without having disposed of his effects, the whole became the property of the crown.

"These customs prevailed within the walls: those in the suburbs were similar, except that in the latter, the owner of a house paid only three-pence farthing. Other regulations were common to both; and when the wife of any inhabitant brewed, ten-pence was paid by ancient customs. There were six smiths, and each of them paid one penny for his forge, and furnished 120 *ferra* from the king's iron, for which each was paid three-pence; nor were

they subject to any other service whatever. There were also seven *Moneyers*, one of whom belonged to the bishop. When a coinage took place, every moneyer paid 18s. for the liberty of procuring bullion; and on their return with it, each paid 20s. daily to the king during one month; and the bishop's moneyer paid the same to the bishop. When the king came to Hereford, the moneyer coined as much as he ordered; but the king furnished the silver to make it: each of the moneyers enjoyed the privilege of *Sac and Soke*, by which they were exempted from customary payments.— On the death of either of the king's moneyers, twenty shillings were paid to the crown as a relief: but if he died without having disposed of his effects, the king, as in other cases, took possession of the whole. If the sheriff went into Wales, the moneyers attended him; and every one of them refusing to go, after a summons to that effect, paid a fine of 40 shillings to the king. Earl Harold had twenty-seven burgesses under him at Hereford, and these were subject to the same customs as the others. The bailiff, or chief officer, paid annually 12l. to the king, and six to Earl Harold; the above customs being common to the tenants of each. The king also received these forfeitures as penalties, in case of particular offences, for each of which 100s. was paid to the king, whether the offender was his tenant or not.

“After the Conquest, King William held Hereford in his own demesne, and the English inhabitants remained subject to the above-stated customs; but the French inhabitants were exempt from all forfeitures, (except the three noticed above), on the payment of twelvecence annually. The whole town thus paid to the Conqueror 60 pounds in silver coin, which, together with the emoluments accruing from eighteen manors, which were accounted for in Hereford, amounted to 335l. 18s. besides the mulcts, and other profits, arising from the hundred and other courts.”—(*Duncomb from the Domesday Book.*)



When the barons broke out in rebellion against Henry III. they began their operations at this place, under the command of Simon Mountfort, earl of Leicester, and their first act of hostility was to imprison the bishop, and such of the canons as were foreigners, after they had plundered them of all their valuable effects. It was also of considerable repute, when the barons took up arms against Edward II. whose great favourite, Hugh Spencer, Earl of Gloucester, was hanged here on a gallows 50 feet high; and several others, the favourites of that prince, shared the same fate.

A most bloody battle being fought near this place between the army of Henry VI. and that of the Earl of March (afterwards Edward IV), the latter of whom was conqueror, and having taken several of the Welsh nobility, as well as others, prisoners, he brought them into this city, and ordered them to be executed in the most barbarous manner.

On the breaking out of the civil wars, Lord Clarendon describes Hereford as a "town very well affected, and reasonably well fortified, having a strong stone wall about it, and some cannon; and there being in it some soldiers of good reputation, many gentlemen of honour and quality, and three or four hundred soldiers, besides the inhabitants well armed." Sir William Waller, however, suddenly appearing before it, the garrison yielded themselves prisoners on quarter, without the loss of one man on either side.

Shortly after its surrender, the parliamentary army quitted the city, upon which it was immediately re-occupied by a strong garrison of royalists, under the command of Barnabas Scudamore, Esq. brother to the first Viscount Scudamore. About two years afterwards, it was besieged by the Scotch auxiliaries under the Earl of Leven, but after an ineffectual struggle of upwards of a month's continuance, and just as the earl had completed his preparations for storming the place, he was compelled



to retreat, by the approach of the king, with a superior force from Worcester.

The following letter descriptive of the most particular events that occurred during this siege, sent by the brave Scudamore to Lord Digby, is preserved among the King's pamphlets in the British Museum, and which from its singularity we shall insert at length.

“ On the 30th of July, I sent out a party of twenty horse over Wye Bridge, who discovering their forlorne hope of horse, charged them into their maine body, and returned in very little disorder, and with losse only of one trooper, taken prisoner; some of the Scots falling. Immediately after this, their whole body of horse faced us in about ten of the clock in the morning, within reach of our cannon, and were welcomed with our mettall, good execution being done upon them: their foot as yet undiscovered. About half an hour after, I caused a strong party of foot, seconded with horse, to line the hedges, who galled them in the passage to the fords; after whose handsome retreat, I began to ensafe the ports, which I did that night. In the morning appeared their body of foot, and we found ourselves surrounded. I enjoyned the bells silence, lest their ringing, which was an alarme to awaken our devotion, might chime them together to the execution of their malice. For the same reason I stop the clocks: and hereby, tho' I prevented them telling tales to the advantage of the enemy, I myself lost the punctuall observations of many particulars, which, therefore, I must more confusedly relate to your lordship.

“ Before they attempted any thing against the towne, they invited us to surrender: this they did by a double summons; one from Leven, directed to me; the other from the committees of both kingdoms, (attending upon the assayres of the army), sent to the maior and corporation; but we complied so well in our resolutions, that one positive

answer served for both parties, which was returned by me to their generall.

“ This not giving that satisfaction they desired, they began to approach upon the first of August, but very slowly and modestly, as yet intending more the security of their own persons, than the ruine of ours; but all their art could not protect them from our small and great shot which fell upon them. Besides this, our men galled them handsomely at their several sallies over Wye Bridge; once beat them up to their maine guard; and at another demolisht one side of St. Martin's Steeple, which would have much annoyed us at the bridge and palace. This was performed only with the hurt of two men, but with the losse of great store of the enemies men.

“ When they saw how difficult the service would prove, before they could compasse their designs by force, they made use of another engine, which was flattery. The maior and alderman are courted to yield the towne, by an epistle subscribed by six of the country gentlemen, very compassionate and suatory, but upon our refusall to stoup to this lure, they were much incensed that they had been so long disappointed, and having all this while continued their line of communication, they raised their batteries, commencing at Wye Bridge, from whence they received the greatest damage: but instead of revenging that losse upon us, they multiplied their own, by the death of their much-lamented General Crafford, and some others that fell with him. This provoked them to play hot upon the gate for two dayes together, and battered it so much, being the weakest, that it was rendered uselesse; yet our men stopped it up with woolsacks and timber; and for our greater assurance of eluding their attempt we brake an arch, and raised a very strong worke behind it.

“ The enemy, frustrate of his hopes here, raised two severall batteries; one at the Friers, the other

on the other side of Wye river; and from both these playes his ordinance against the corner of the wall by Wye side; but we repair and line our walls faster than they can batter them, whereupon they desist.

“ About the 11th of August, we discover a mine at Frien (Fryar's) Gate, and employ workmen to countermine them. When we had stopt the progress of that mine on one side of the gate, they carried it on the other; which we also defeated by making a sally port, and issuing forth, did break it open, and fire it.

“ About the 13th they raise batteries round about the town, and make a bridge over Wye river. The 14th Dr. Scudamore is sent by them, to desire admittance for three country gentlemen, who pretended, in their letters, to impart something of consequence to the good of the city and country. Free leave of ingresse and egresse was allowed them; but being admitted, their suggestions were found to us so frivolous and impertinent, that they were dismissed; not without some disrelish and neglect; and the said doctor, after they had passed the port, coming back from his company, was unfortunately slaine by a shot from the enemy.

“ About the 16th they discover the face of their battery against Frien Gate with five severall gun-ports; from hence they played four cannone jointly at our walls, and made a breach, which was instantly made up; they do the like on the other side, with the like successe.

“ The 17th, a notable sally was made at St. Owen's church with great execution, and divers prisoners taken, with the losse of only one man; at the same time little boys strived which should first carry torches and faggots to fire their works, which was performed to some purpose; and so it was at the same sally-port once before, though with a fewer number; and therefore with lesse execution. And I may not forget to acquaint your lordship with

those other foure sallies, made by us at the castle to good effect, and what emulation there was between the souldiers and citizens, which should be most engaged in them.

“ Now their losse of prisoners, slaughter of men, and dishonour of being beaten out of their workes, which they found ready to flame about their ears, if they returned presently into them, had so kindled their indignation, that presently they raised batteries against St. Owen's Church, and plaied fiercely at it, but to little purpose, which they so easily perceived that, from the 20th until the 27th there was a great calme on all sides; we as willing to provide ourselves, and preserve our ammunition from a storme, as they could be industrious and malicious to bring it upon us. Yet I cannot say either side was idle; for they plied their mine at St. Owen's and prepared for scaling; we countermined, imployed our boyes by day and night to steal out and fire their works, securing their retreat by musketiers upon the wall; and what our fire could not perfect, though it burnt far, and suffocated some of their miners, our water did, breaking in upon them, and drowning that which the fire had not consumed; and this saved us the paines of pursuing a mine, which we had sunk on purpose to render theirs in that place ineffectual.

“ The 29th, Leven, a mercifull generall, assayes the town by his last offer of honourable conditions to surrender; but he found us still unrelenting, the terror of his cannon making no impression at all upon our spirits, though the bullets discharged from them had done so much on our walls: this, though some of their commanders were remisse and coole at the debate, and some contradictory, drives their greatest spirits into a passionate resolution of storming; and to that purpose, August 31st and September 1st, they prepare ladders, hurdles, and other accommodations for advancing their designe, and securing their persons in the attempt, and plaide very hot with their caupon upon Bysters-Gate, and the

half-moon next St. Owen's Gate, intending the morning after to fall on, presuming, as they boasted, that, 'after they had rung us this passing peale, they should presently force the garrison to give up her loyal ghost.' But the same night, his majesty advancing from Worcester, gave them a very hot alarm and drawing a little nearer to us, like the sunne to the meridian, the Scottish miste beganne to disperse, and the next morning vanished out of sight.

"I may not forget one remarkable piece of divine providence, that God sent us singular men of all professions, very useful and necessary to us in this distresse, and so accidentally to us, as if they had been on purpose let down from heaven to serve our present and emergent occasions: such as skilfull miners, excellent cannoneers, one whereof spent but one shot in vain throughout the whole siege; an expert carpenter, the only man in all the county to make mills, without whom we had been much disfurnisht of our means to make powder (after our powder mill was burnt,) or grind corne. That providence that brought these to us, at last drove our enemies from us, after the destruction of foure or five mines, the expense of three hundred cannon shot, besides other ammunition spent with muskets, and the losse, by their confession, of 1200, and as the country says, 2000 men: we in all, not losing above 21, by all casualties whatsoever."

The entrenchments, that were thrown up by the Scots, during this siege, are still visible on different sides of the town.

Notwithstanding this success, Hereford continued but a short time in possession of the royalists, it being soon after taken by a detachment of parliamentary troops, under the command of Colonel Birch, Colonel Morgan, and Captain Silas Taylor, who are said to have obtained it by the following stratagem. The country people having been summoned by the governor of Hereford to repair to the city, for the purpose of assisting and strengthening the

walls and fortifications, which had been greatly damaged during the siege by the Scotch army, and some of the warrants issued on this occasion having been intercepted, Colonel Birch hired six men, put them in the form of labourers, with a constable with them, with a warrant to bring these men to work in the town; in the night he lodged them within three quarters musket shot of the town, and 150 musqueteers near them; and himself with the foot, and Colonel Morgan with the horse, coming up in the night after them, cut off all intelligence from the town, and thus prevented any discovery. In the morning, upon letting down the draw-bridge, the six countrymen, and the constable, went with their pick-axes and spades to the bridge; but on the guard beginning to examine them, the countrymen killed three of them, and kept the rest in play till the musqueteers and the main body came up, when they entered the town, with small loss, and became masters of it.

Soon after the Restoration, the bravery which the inhabitants of this city had displayed in resisting the Scotch, was rewarded by a new charter, and an augmentation of arms, with the motto "*INVICTÆ FIDELITATIS PRÆMIUM.*" Since this period no event of distinguished historical celebrity has occurred respecting this city.

Hereford, as before observed, was formerly surrounded by a wall and deep ditch, and defended by the above-mentioned castle, which, as well as a great part of the wall, and three of the gates, are demolished. The streets are in general wide, and the buildings, within the space of a few years, have been greatly improved: and as the city stands on a gravelly soil, the air is consequently salubrious, and very favourable to longevity.

The most conspicuous among the public buildings of this city is the Cathedral, which, as already mentioned, owes its origin to the murder of Ethelbert, king of the East Angles, by the Mercian king



Offa, whose valuable donations to the original church, which was dedicated to St. Mary, and which previously occupied the same site, has frequently occasioned him to be considered as the founder of the new cathedral, which was erected about the year 825, by Milefrid, a provincial governor under Egbert.

The following are the circumstances attending the murder of Ethelbert, as related by ancient historians.—The principles of Offa having been corrupted by the possession of wealth and dominion, he invited Ethelbert to his palace at Sutton Walls, about three miles north-east from Hereford, under pretence of giving him his daughter in marriage; but on his arrival Quendreda, the wife of Offa, impelled by the ambition of procuring a new kingdom for her family, obtained the consent of her husband to violate all the ties of honour and hospitality, by putting their unfortunate guest to death, which was immediately executed by some partizans in the service of the queen. His body was first privately interred at Marden, but it was soon afterwards removed by Offa, to the church at Hereford, where he erected a magnificent tomb to his memory.

The murdered prince, who had (while living) been considered as possessing various eminent qualifications, was, after his death, regarded as a saint, and many miraculous events were affirmed to have occurred at the place of his interment. Milefrid, being induced to enquire into the truth of these reputed miracles, and the result of his investigation proving satisfactory, he determined to erect a new church of stone on the site of the former, in honour of St. Ethelbert, and as the ample grants made by Milefrid were not only augmented by the revenues arising from the donations of Offa, but still farther increased by the numerous offerings made by the pilgrims, who flocked in multitudes to the shrine of the murdered king, the work was soon completed, but no description of it is supposed to exist; for within less than 200 years it appears to have wholly



fallen to decay; it was however rebuilt by the munificence of Bishop Athelstan, who was appointed to this see in the year 1012, over which he presided till the time of his decease in 1056; in which year the cathedral itself was destroyed by fire, during the hostile incursion of the Welsh under Gryffyth, and the Earl of Chester, and remained in ruins till the succession of Robert, surnamed Lozing, in the year 1079, when that bishop began the present edifice, on the model of the Church of Aken, now Aix-la-Chapelle, in Germany; but Lozing dying, in the year 1095, and leaving the cathedral unfinished, his design was afterwards completed by Bishop Raynelm, who was appointed to this see about the year 1096, and who is recorded in the Calendar of Obits,\* to be the founder of this church, probably from the great extent of the work erected during his prelacy. This venerable structure, has, however, been greatly increased and beautified by several of the bishops since its erection, and the last alterations of any considerable importance are of a very recent date, having been effected since the year 1786, when the tower over the west front gave way, and falling to the ground destroyed all the parts immediately beneath it, together with the adjoining parts of the nave. The west end has since been rebuilt, and the whole cathedral repaired under the direction of Mr. Wyatt.

The cathedral destroyed by Gryffyth is supposed to have extended beyond the lines of the present building, and particularly towards the south-east; where, near the cloisters of the college, Silas Taylor, the antiquary, discovered, about the year 1050, "such stupendous foundations, such capitals, and pedestals, such well-wrought bases for arches, and such rare engravings, and mouldings of friezes,"

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\* '5 Kal. Oct. obitus Renelmi episcopi, fundatoris ecclesie Sancti Ethelberti.'

as left little doubt in his mind, but that they formed parts of the church built by Athelstan.

The general plan of the present venerable structure is that of a cross, with a lesser transept towards the east, and a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary beyond it. At the intersection of the nave and transept, is a square stone tower, which had formerly a spire of timber, cased with lead, and rising 92 feet in height above the battlements, but this was pulled down, during the late repairs, in order to relieve the arches of the tower from so much of the superincumbent weight. Though the greater transept is not uniform, its north end being larger than the south, yet an additional building, originally employed as the treasury, but now used as the chapter-house, gives its appearance an air of symmetry.

The exterior parts of the present edifice are very dissimilar in appearance, particularly since the recent construction of the west front, the architecture of which is extremely incongruous to the style which it pretends to imitate. "Whatever was the cause (says a modern writer) of this departure from the ancient character of the building, whether it arose from the inadequacy of the funds, or from the want of skill in the architect, its effects are certainly to be lamented, inasmuch as they detract greatly from the sublimity of the original design. The great door, as it now appears, can hardly be compared to any thing else than a very ill-formed niche, with an obtuse arch, bounded by two buttresses, and surmounted by battlements; the great window is in the high-pointed style; and the centre terminates with battlements, and has an empty niche. Besides the buttresses above mentioned, the facade has two five-sided and two common buttresses. The niches over the side doors are paltry in the extreme: the more beautiful front, whose place has been usurped, is described by Mr. Duncomb nearly as follows:—"The original west front was carried on in the Saxon style, as high as the roof of the nave in the centre,

and of the aisles on the sides. At the west entrance several series of small Saxon columns, with circular arches intersecting each other, extended horizontally over the whole facade, and were divided from each other by lines or mouldings, variously adorned. Under the first or lowest series of arches, the billet ornament prevailed; under the second, the embattled frette; under the third, the nail-head; and under the fourth, the zig-zag: the bases, shafts, capitals and most of the arches, were plain; but some of the last were distinguished by the zig-zag, and others had the nail head ornament, both of which decorated other parts of this front. The entrance was under a recessed circular arch, supported by five plain pillars on each side, and over the door and side aisles mosaic patterns prevailed in the sculpture. On the centre of this front a tower was afterwards constructed in the pointed style: it was raised on long and irregular shafts, awkwardly projecting from the inside of the original walls of the nave, affording an inadequate support, and proving, by their construction, that the tower itself formed no part of the original building or design. The central window, which was greatly enlarged, and altered into the pointed form, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VI. was divided horizontally into three parts, by stone transoms; and each was again divided perpendicularly, by mullions, into six lights, terminating above in trefoil arches. Over the point of the arch, was a human face, with foliage expanding on each side in the form of wings; this served as a corbel to a small ornamented column, which rose to the parapet of the tower: on the sides of the window, under cinquefoil arches were effigies, as large as life, of St. Paul and Bishop Cantipule, towards the north, and of St. Peter and King Ethelbert towards the south: under the feet of each a quatrefoil was sculptured over a trefoil arch; and long and slender shafts, supporting cinquefoil arches, with pediments and pinnacles, enriched with crock-

ets, completed this range of sculptured decoration. Above the pinnacles were two rows of windows, four windows in each row: the upper contained two lights in the lancet form; the lower was somewhat less simple; a single mullion divided each into two lights as before, and reaching the head, branched off to the sides, forming a trefoil arch over each light, from which an upright was carried to the curve of the window on each side, and completed the design. A border, resembling the nail-head, crossed the tower horizontally above, between, and below the windows; a similar decoration was also carried down the corners of the tower; above the whole was an embattled parapet, decorated with the trefoil arch. Four square buttresses, with Saxon ornaments, projected from the sides of the tower; and the extremities of the front terminated in hexagonal pinnacles, surmounted with crosses; those in the centre reached above the parapet; but those on the sides were lower by one third part." This tower, which was 80 feet in breadth, and 130 feet in height, gave several intimations of its approaching fate, and some attempts were made to prevent it; but the decay had become too general to admit of this being effected; the arches entirely gave way on the evening of Easter-Monday, in the year 1786; and the whole mass instantaneously became a heap of ruins. In rebuilding this portion of the cathedral, the foundations were removed more inward, in consequence of which the length of the nave was considerably diminished. Nearly 18,000*l.* were expended upon the new works, and about 2000*l.* more were appropriated to the general repair of the central tower, and other parts of the fabric; of these sums 7000*l.* were subscribed by the clergy and laity, and the remaining 13,000*l.* were charged on the estates of the church.

The exterior of the nave on the north side resembles much of its original character; though the tops of the buttresses, clerestory windows, parapets, &c. are modern: the porch, which forms the grand

entrance on this front, was built by Bishop Booth, about the beginning of the 16th century, and is constructed with four clusters of small pillars, which support as many pointed arches, one leading into the cathedral, and the other three opening into the church-yard. The columns, which are six feet in height, rise twelve feet from the level of their capitals to the crown of the arch, making it lofty and pointed. The capitals are plain and circular, and divided into several laminæ, gradually decreasing in their circumference from that which is uppermost. The three principal mouldings of the arch leading into the church are curiously sculptured with the figures of men and animals. The roof, which is vaulted with stone, is divided by ribs into angular compartments, having quatrefoils, and other foliage, at their intersections. On each side of the north arch is an hexagonal turret, in which are winding staircases, leading to a small chapel over the porch, which projects before the more ancient one of the cathedral, and which is also vaulted with stone, and has ribs diverging in three directions from each corner; those on the sides forming the arch of their respective walls, and those in the middle meeting in a centre orb, which is adorned with foliage: similar ribs also meet the orb at right angles from the opposite sides. At the south-east angle of the ancient porch there is a small circular tower, having a winding staircase, which, reaching above the parapet, terminates in pediments, ornamented with crockets on the sides, and the heads of animals on the top.

On the east and west sides of the great transept, the summit of which is embattled, and its sides strengthened by massive buttresses, are two very lofty and narrow windows, of three lights, under sharp pointed arches, with small circular columns and mouldings, above which are corbels; and still higher, on the parapet towards the west, is sculptured a range of trefoil arches. On the east side are likewise two of the ancient Norman windows, with



circular arches; together with another small and circular tower, formed in the angle, and reaching above the roof of the transept. Between this and the lesser transept is a chapel, built by Bishop Stanbury, about the middle of the fifteenth century, and having two windows under obtuse arches. The arches of the windows on the north and east sides of the smaller transept are of the same form: and on the northern summit of this transept is a low and plain cross.

On the north side of the chapel, which is dedicated to our Lady, but which is now used as a library, are six windows, of the lancet form, supported by small circular pillars, similar to those in use at the beginning of the thirteenth century. Between these are circles excavated in the wall, in the centres of which are human faces, and other devices; above these is a series of intersecting arches and columns, the capitals of which are adorned with foliage; and a plain parapet surmounted the whole. A porch, vaulted and groined with stone, projects on this side, the outer arch of which is pointed, with a plain round moulding over it; the inner arch is likewise pointed, but it has the zig-zag ornament; the columns are plain and circular, but the capitals have some foliage on them: this porch leads to the vaults under the chapel; the east end of which has five lancet windows, those on the sides gradually declining in height from that in the centre; between each on the sides, are two niches under trefoil arches, and above are sculptured lozenges, and other ornaments, and still higher is a series of pointed trefoil arches, with battlements above and pinnacles at the angles. The windows on the south side are also of the lancet form, but they are divided into two lights by a single mullion; above them is sculptured a range or series of Saxon arches and pillars, intersecting each other; and still higher is a series of similar arches, but without columns. From this side projects a small chapel, built by Bishop Audley about the latter end of the fifteenth century. It forms three parts of an hexa-

gon; each part containing two windows under the flat or obtuse arch, which was introduced about that period: the upper windows are divided into six compartments, by two mullions and an ornamented transom; the lower windows are smaller, and of more simple construction. The parapet, which is embattled, has a row of small clustered pillars, sculptured under it, and supporting trefoil arches.

At the south end of the smaller transept are two large windows, each of which is divided by mullions into four principal lights, with cinquefoil arches, the spaces above terminating in a trefoil in the centre, and another on each side. The east windows consist each of four lights, under trefoil arches, and on the summit towards the south is a small stone cross. The south end of the great transept has one large window, under a flat or obtuse arch, with a second in a circular form above it, including a trefoil. The former is divided into six long narrow lights, under cinquefoil arches, and the head similarly divided into twelve parts, but the courses of the stone about it plainly shew this form to have been an alteration from the original window, and the same is also observable in a more pointed window towards the west; this side has likewise a smaller window under an obtuse arch, containing three principal lights, which are subdivided by transoms, each light terminating by a cinquefoil arch. The principal windows on the south side of the nave are seven in number, having strong projecting buttresses between them; they are similar to those on the north side, consisting of four lights under trefoil arches, the head having a cinquefoil in the centre, with two trefoils under it; above are corbels, representing roses, foliage, and heads of men and animals. The clerestory windows, which form part of the new work of the nave, are designed to imitate the former, being also under pointed arches, with corbels above.

The great or central tower, which has lost much of its primitive character, by modern reparations,



in its original state was massive and embattled, the whole being richly studded over with the nail-head ornament, and farther distinguished by a round moulding, triangular frette, zig-zag, and other appropriate decorations in the Saxon style. The disposition, however, of these ornaments, were in conformity to the pointed style; whilst each side of the tower contained two ranges of lights, four in each range, and in the lancet form. On the spire (which has already been mentioned as having stood upon this tower) being taken down during the late repairs, among other alterations, the battlements were raised higher, and pinnacles and crockets placed at the angles; and by flattening or reducing to an obtuse angle the roofs of the nave and transepts, an effect of additional height was given to the tower itself.

Though the former venerable appearance of the interior of this cathedral has been greatly destroyed by recent alterations, and by the removal of various sepulchral monuments, painted glass, &c. yet it may still be considered as very interesting. The nave is separated from the aisles by a double row of massive columns, which sustain circular arches curiously decorated with mouldings, of zig-zag, nail-heads, lozenges, interwoven twigs, and other ornaments; most of the capitals are plainly sculptured, except those nearest to the choir, which display some well-executed foliage. The arch, which adjoins the south side of the choir, has, however been altered from its original form, and stripped of its ornaments; those arches also nearest the west door have been rebuilt in a plain manner, since the fall of the west end. Over the arches is a range of arcades, under pointed arches, which are sustained on small clustered columns. The whole roof is vaulted and joined with stone, and divided by ribs into compartments of various forms, most of them being adorned with human heads and foliage. The entrance into the south end of the great transept is under a low and pointed arch, which formerly reached almost to the

ceiling, but which has been partly filled up. Over the door is a niche and pedestal, and somewhat lower, on each side, is a smaller pedestal.

The north end of the great transept, called St. Catharine's Aisle, is now used as the parochial church of St. John the Baptist. On the east it is divided from a smaller aisle by two arches on smaller clustered columns, having plain capitals on the side pillars, with a kind of volute to those in the centre; these arches are ornamented with ribbed mouldings, in various patterns. Above is a range of Arcades under trefoil arches of elegant workmanship; each arcade is divided by small columns, clustered and circular, into three open compartments, the head of every arch being ornamented with three quatrefoils in circles, and the mouldings corresponding with those of the arches. Between the outer mouldings of the several arches the wall is well sculptured in a Mosaic pattern, representing four leaves expanded in each square. The opposite or west wall is less decorated: it contains, however, a handsome circular arch, decorated with a double row of zig-zag, resting on circular columns with square capitals. Previous to the late alterations the windows of the nave were ornamented with the arms of various noble families, &c. in painted glass.

The nave is terminated by a plain screen, through which is the entrance to the choir, under a pointed arch; above which is a large and well-toned organ, a noble circular arch extending over it, which supports the west side of the tower: this arch is decorated with zig-zag and nail-head ornaments. The choir is lofty and well proportioned, and contains 50 stalls, with ornamental canopies in the pointed style; these, though composed of wood, are painted of a stone colour, and under the seats are carved various grotesque and ludicrous devices and figures. On the sides of the altar, above the oak wainscoting, are rich open circular arches, with others still higher in the pointed style. The altar, which has a sump-

tuous and elegant appearance, is approached by a flight of seven steps.

In the passage or aisle, on the north side of the choir, is the entrance to the chapel built by Bishop Stanbury, the roof of which is vaulted, and adorned with sculptured niches, cinquefoils, and other devices. The walls are also ornamented with some well-executed foliage, and on the north and west sides they are likewise decorated with shields, some of them allusive to scriptural subjects, and others displaying the arms of the see and deanery of Hereford, &c.

Under the second window of the south aisle, is a curious and very ancient font, which, says Mr. Duncomb, "was recently brought from another part of the church: the diameter is nearly three feet, and the sides four inches in thickness, leaving a vacuity sufficiently large for the immersion of infants. On the outside are represented, in relief, the twelve apostles, in as many niches, under Saxon arches, studded with the nail-head ornament, and supported on pillars with foliated capitals, and further ornamented with the spiral band, zig-zag, and other corresponding decorations. Over the figures of the apostles, which are 15 inches in height, and much mutilated, is a broad band encircling the whole, marked in relief with a series of ornament, resembling the letter T, alternately inverted: the whole is of common stone, and supported on the backs of four sea-lions.

The Chapel of our Lady, which forms the eastern termination of the Cathedral, is now used as the Library, and contains a valuable collection of books and manuscripts, most of which relates to ecclesiastical history; but one of the greatest curiosities is an ancient map of the world, which was discovered under a pile of lumber some years ago; it is illuminated with gilt Saxon letters, and the different places appear to be marked by animals, houses, &c. but the full design cannot be traced, the whole being

so thickly covered with dirt. It is fixed within a frame, ornamented by foliage in the pointed style, and had originally shutters to preserve it from injury. The windows in this part of the building are in the lancet form, and are separated from each other by receding clusters of small pillars, supporting pointed arches, and richly ornamented with foliage and single leaves in open work of great elegance and lightness.

This chapel, says Mr. Gough, was probably erected by the lady whose tomb is in its north wall; whose husband, as appears by the arms, was a Bohun, though not an Earl of Hereford. The ancient painting under the arch shews the lady in a nun's veil as on the tomb, with a church in her hand, pointing to a chapel at its east end, which she presents to the Virgin on her throne; the secular priests (of Hereford no doubt) are following her. The effigies of the husband, which lie on an adjoining tomb, represent him in close armour, with the hands clasped on the breast, and a dog at his feet. Over him is a stone canopy, richly sculptured in the pointed style; and in the front of the canopy are two human figures sitting, one holding a globe and a scroll, and the other with the hands clasped as in prayer. Beneath this chapel is a vault, or crypt, which, from its having been made a place of deposit for the human bones which were disturbed in the repairs of the cathedral, has of late years acquired the name of *Golgotha*.

From this chapel is an entrance into Bishop Audley's Chapel, which has a vaulted roof, groined with stone, and divided by small ribs into various compartments; the ground of which is painted blue, and the ribs red, with gilt edges. In the centre orb is a representation of the Virgin Mary, gilt, and surrounded with a glory of the same; the others are decorated with foliage, and various appropriate ornaments. The Gothic screen, which separates this chapel from the library, is painted and gilt, to

correspond with the ceiling; and on it nineteen saints and religious persons are represented, placed in compartments or niches under canopies, the whole being well wrought in stone, and richly painted in various colours.

Though many of the sepulchral memorials in this structure were defaced, and swept away at the Reformation, and others demolished in the time of the Civil Wars, yet those that remain are still numerous; many are however concealed by the pews in the north transept, and "more (says Mr. Duncomb, alluding to the brasses) were accidentally sold among the old materials disposed of, after the general repair in 1786; the last, which in a considerable degree might have supplied the want of appropriate decorations in the new part of the church, were fortunately rescued from the furnace by a friend of the arts, and are now placed in the collection of Richard Gough, Esq.

Among those monuments that remain, one of the most celebrated is that to the memory of the bishop Cantilupe, who died in the year 1282, and is said to have been the last Englishman who obtained the honour of canonization, which took place in the year 1310. This tomb, from the reputed sanctity of Cantilupe, was visited by pilgrims and travellers from all parts of Europe; and it is still regarded with veneration by the Catholics. It is composed of free-stone, in the altar form, and is placed under a low stone canopy, supported by arches, resting on low circular pillars, with square capitals. Round the tomb, under cinquefoil niches, are fourteen small full-length effigies of knights in armour, bearing shields. Matthew of Westminster relates that 163 miracles were performed at this tomb in a short space of time; indeed, so great was the reputation which he had obtained, that the succeeding bishops of Hereford waved their ancient arms, in order to assume the paternal coat of Cantilupe, which has been continued to the present time.



In arches of the walls, in the passage on the east side of the choir, are altar-monuments of several bishops, with their effigies episcopally habited, which, says Mr. Grose, from the similarity of taste in which they are executed, have given rise to a notion that they were all set up at one time; a moment's consideration of the great expense, all coming out of one purse, will immediately shew the improbability of this suggestion; in all likelihood the form of the most ancient served as a model for those succeeding. The faces of all the figures have been shamefully mutilated.

Most of the buildings dependant on the cathedral are situated on its south side, where also was formerly a beautiful octagon chapter-house, and a chapel, of very high antiquity. The former was situated a short distance from the end of the great transept. It was elegantly constructed in the pointed style of architecture. The roof was sustained in the centre by a single pillar, finely ornamented with figures and other devices. Beneath every window was a square compartment, containing five niches, in each of which was a well-painted figure, as large as life, representing our Saviour, the apostles, and various saints, kings, bishops, and other personages. The demolition of this structure was commenced during the Civil Wars, when it was stripped of its covering of lead, to cover the gateway of the castle, in consequence of which it fell into ruins, and its remains have lately been taken down by the chapter of Hereford.

The ancient chapel, which stood between the south side of the bishop's cloisters and the palace, was not improbably antecedent to the cathedral as well as to the episcopal palace. It was built entirely of stone, not excepting the roof, which was supported by four massive columns rising from the ground, and from which arches turned every way; above the roof was a square cupola, terminating pyramidically. The ground plan, independent of the



choir, and the space occupied by the west front, and its deeply recessed portico, formed a perfect square of about 40 feet. It consisted of two chapels, one above the other; the upper one being dedicated to St. Magdalen, and had several pillars against the walls, formed of entire stones. The lower chapel, which was some steps under ground, was dedicated to St. Catherine. The principal entrance was on the west, under a retiring arch, or series of arches, 16 or 18 feet deep, at the outward and inner extremities of which were columns of single stones 10 feet high. This intervening specimen of the architecture of remote ages has been entirely taken down, having been returned, by those who examined it under commission to inspect the ancient chapel, during the prelacy of Bishop Egerton, as ruinous and useless; in consequence of which orders were given for its demolition, though "it was well known (says Mr. Duncomb) at the time, that less than 20l. would have put it into as good repair as it had been in during 400 years;" indeed so strongly were the stones cemented together, that after one-third of the chapel had been taken down, the work of destruction was for that time relinquished, on account of the expense, which had even then amounted to upwards of 50l. It has, however, since been entirely demolished.

The Bishop's Cloisters, which are appropriated to the purposes of sepulture, and distinguished by the name of our Lady's Arbour, form a communication between the cathedral and the palace, and inclose an area of about 100 feet; the arches of the windows are obtuse, but the windows themselves are diversified by various ramifications. In the time of Edward the Sixth, the west side of these cloisters was destroyed, and a grammar-school erected on the site; but this having become greatly decayed, was taken down, about the year 1760; and a large edifice built partly of brick, and partly of stone, was erected by subscription on the spot, under an engage-

ment, that, in addition to the uses of a school, it should be applied to the triennial meetings of the three choirs of Hereford, Worcester, and Gloucester, and to other public occasions, in consequence of which it has been termed the Music Room.

The Bishop's palace, which is an ancient building, is pleasantly situated at a little distance from the banks of the Wye; its outward appearance is by no means prepossessing, though many of the apartments are fitted up with elegance: the gardens, which are extensive, occupy a gentle declivity contiguous to the river.

The Deanery and Prebendal Houses are situated nearly opposite the north-east angle and north side of the cathedral, but display nothing remarkable.

The College, which is a venerable pile of stone building, surrounds a quadrangle of about 100 feet, and is appropriated to the uses of the vicars-choral, and besides the apartments for the vicars, it contains a spacious common-hall, a small chapel, and a library, the two latter are, however, in a state of dilapidation; this college appears to have been erected about the time of Bishop Stanbury, previous to which the vicars-choral had their residence in Castle Street.

The cathedral-yard, previous to the year 1791, was the burial ground for all the parishes in the city, and for many of the adjacent out-parishes; since which, however, the city parishes have each provided distinct places of interment.

The present members of the cathedral of Hereford are, a bishop, dean, two archdeacons, six residentiary canons, including the dean, a lecturer, a chancellor of the diocese, a chancellor of the cathedral, a treasurer, a sub-treasurer, a precentor, 28 prebendaries, a first and second master of the grammar-school, a chapter clerk, 12 vicars-choral, being priests including a custos, an organist, seven choristers, a vergers, and two sextons: the dean and residentiary canons constitute the chapter. Except

eight parishes, which form part of the diocese of St. David's, the episcopal jurisdiction of Hereford extends over the whole county; it also includes a very considerable portion of Shropshire, four parishes in Monmouthshire, eight in Radnorshire, six in Montgomeryshire, and twenty-one in Worcester-shire.

“In the jurisdiction which prevailed in the city of Hereford (says Mr. Duncomb) the bishops appear to have retained a more than common share of the civil authority. Nearly half of the city, together with a considerable portion of the suburbs, form a district entitled the *Bishop's Fee*; within this district the bishops have enjoyed very considerable privileges, and on particular occasions, their authority has altogether superseded that of the civil magistrate, by extending over the whole city. As lords of this fee, they exercised the ancient rights denominated from the Saxon, *Infangenethef*, and *Utfangenethef*; by which they administered justice within their limits, and committed offenders to the custody of their own officers, in their own peculiar prison, which was situated within the walls of the episcopal palace. By *Chol*, and *Cheame*, or *Theame*, they restrained and judged bondmen and villains, with their children, goods, and chattels; and by *Sac* and *Soke* their tenants were excused from the payment of customary burdens and impositions. They also held an annual fair for the sale of merchandize within their fee; during its continuance their power extended to all parts of the city; the markets were transferred from the usual places to that appointed by the bishop; and a porter was sworn at each of the city gates to collect the tolls for his use. A bailiff was annually elected by a jury, together with a serjeant-at-mace, leather-searchers, and ale-conners; they regulated the assize of bread and beer; and courts-baron, leet, and pipoudre were held; and presentments, and other usual business, formally transacted.” Some of these privileges are said to have been contained

in a charter as early as the time of Edward the Confessor.

In consequence of these extensive privileges possessed by the episcopal see, there were in former ages frequent disputes between the bishops and the inhabitants of the city; but which generally terminated in the triumph of the church, and the submission of the people. At present, though the bishop's courts are still held, "the business transacted consists of little more than the formality of swearing in a jury, electing a bailiff and serjeant, and presenting and amercing all who owe suit and service, and having been summoned do not appear. The offices of porters, leather-searchers, and ale-tasters, have long been discontinued. The original charter of the above-mentioned fair was granted by Henry the First, about the year 1189, in commemoration of St. Ethelbert. It is still continued, with many of its formalities, and from the length of its duration, which includes the eve and whole octave of St. Ethelbert, has obtained the name of the Nine-day's Fair; and during this period, the bishop's bailiff, according to the ancient custom, acts as civil magistrate; and on the Sunday preceding, attends the cathedral and palace, with a mace-bearer, and other officers in procession. This fair is annually proclaimed on the 19th of May, being the eve of the feast of St. Ethelbert.

Besides the cathedral, previous to the Civil Wars, Hereford contained five distinct churches, viz. St. Peter's, All Saints, St. Nicholas', St. Martin's, and St. Owen's: the two latter were destroyed during the siege in the year 1645, and the church of St. John the Baptist, appears always to have been an appendage to the cathedral.

St. Peter's Church was founded soon after the Norman Conquest, by Walter de Lacy, who attended the Conqueror to England, and who had various manors and lands in this county assigned to him as a reward for his services. After the comple-

tion of the church, about the year 1085, he was accidentally killed by falling from the battlements, while inspecting the works. In the year 1101 this church, with all its appurtenances, was given by Hugh de Lacy, son of Walter, to the abbey of St. Peter's, at Gloucester, by which donation a religious fraternity, which had been instituted here, in honour of St. Guthlac, became subject to that foundation, and was removed into Bye Street suburb.—Previous to the Dissolution, no less than four chantries had been founded in this church; one of them, now the vestry, was originally open to the chancel on each side of which are seven ancient stalls, supposed to have been designed for the use of the brothers of St. Guthlac's Priory; these stalls are very elegantly carved into pannels, quatrefoils, &c. and have light and beautiful canopies of fret-work. The nave is separated from the aisles by octagon columns on the south side, and by pillars on the north. In the year 1793 this church was repaired, and partly rebuilt, at the expense of the parishioners. After the dissolution, the great tythes of this church were annexed to the see of Hereford, and in the time of Charles II., the rectory of St. Owen's was united to this church, but the right of individual patronage was preserved.

All Saint's Church consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a tower rising from the ground, and terminating in a lofty spire; on the north side the tower overhangs its base considerably, but it is sustained in its present situation by two new buttresses. The nave is separated from the aisles by circular columns, sustaining pointed arches; the roof, which is of timber, has ancient projecting angel brackets, pierced pannels, and pendants of foliage and flowers. Here are several stalls, supposed to have been appropriated to the brethren of the hospital of St. Anthony, in Vienna, to whom this church was given by Henry III. and who appear to have formed a small society here to superintend their property, as

early as the 22nd of Edward I. The elbows of the stalls exhibit grotesque carvings of men and animals, and the lower parts of the seats are likewise filled with whimsical representations; the canopies are light and elegant, being beautifully ornamented with fret-work of quatrefoils, roses, and foliage. Under the west end of this edifice, and contiguous to it, are several subterraneous passages, and vaulted apartments. In this church as at St. Peter's, were four chantries, the collective revenues of which were, at the time of their dissolution, estimated at 20l. 1s. 6½d. per annum.

St. Martin's, which is now annexed to the parish of All Saints, was originally the mother church, as appears by a valuation made in the time of Edward the First, in which All Saints is distinguished as the chapel.

St. Nicholas' Church, which is a small edifice, consists of a nave, north aisle, and chancel; this fabric, though recently repaired, is still in a state of decay, and the chancel has the singular appearance of falling two ways, the north and south walls both leaning outwards. Here were formerly two chantries in honour of the Virgin Mary, which were endowed with lands to the amount of 9l. 11s. 4½d. per annum,

Besides the above places of divine worship, Hereford contains a meeting-house for each of the following denominations of sectaries, Methodists, Dissenters, Roman Catholics, and Quakers.

Several monasteries and religious houses existed in this city and its suburbs previous to the reformation, but most of them are now down, and the sites occupied by other buildings. The oldest foundation, independent of the cathedral, was a community of Prebendaries in honour of St. Guthlac, and whose chapel, says Leland, 'was once a fayre building of a circular forme.' These prebendaries were afterwards translated to the church of St. Peter, which being given, as before-mentioned, to the Ab-



bey of St. Peter's, at Gloucester, the provost and secular canons were changed into a prior and benedictine monks, who were subordinate to the above abbey, and were removed into the east suburb, without Bishopgate, were Robert Betun, bishop of Hereford, gave them a piece of ground, on which was built the monastery of St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Guthlac, which was valued upon the dissolution at 121*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* per annum. This priory is represented in the Harleian Manuscripts to have been "very pleasant and large, having much land, spacious gardens and orchards, fine walls, a rivulet called Eigne, running under the walls, with stately chambers and retirements, and a large and melancholy chapel, built with many descents into it from the ground, and then of a great height in the roof." The site of this monastery is now occupied by a new County Gaol and House of Correction, on the plan of the benevolent Howard.

On the north side of the city are some remains of a monastery of Black Friars, or Friar's Preachers, who were originally established in the Port Field, about the year 1276, under the auspices of William Cantilupe, brother to bishop Cantilupe. On the dissolution, the site and buildings of this priory were granted to John Scudamore, Esq. of Wilton, and William Wygmore, Gent. of Shoddon, but early in the reign of Elizabeth they came into the possession of the Coningsby family, from whom the estate has descended to the present Earl of Essex.

The principal vestiges of this monastery are some decayed offices, and the remains of a cross, or stone pulpit, being originally built for the purpose of preaching from; it is constructed in the form of a hexagon, open on each side, and surrounded by a flight of steps, gradually decreasing as they ascend: in the centre is a base of the same shape, with two trefoil arches on each side, supporting the shaft of the cross, which branching out into ramifications from the roof of the pulpit, and passing

through it, appears above in a mutilated state; the upper part is embattled, and each angle supported by a buttress. A large alder, which having forced its way in four stems through the joints of the steps; and one of its branches twining round the pillar, and passing out through an arch of the hexagon, adds greatly to the picturesque effect of this beautiful remain of antiquity. The south side of the prior's lodgings is tolerably entire, being sustained by three buttresses. In the basement are two oblong windows, each of which is divided by two pillars into three compartments, having cinquefoil arches, and at the south-west corner is a circular tower. The wall on the north side, which is mantled with ivy, is supported by buttresses, but is much dilapidated.

Near the river, and not far distant from Wye-Bridge, was a house of Grey Friars, founded by Sir William Pembrugge, in the time of Edward I. and dedicated to St. Guthlac. No vestiges of the Friary buildings are now standing; the last remains appear to have been pulled down about the latter end of the seventeenth century, and on the site a manufactory of gloves is established.

Besides the above religious foundations there were several others in this city, of which not any interesting particulars have been handed down. Among the charitable establishments, those of the most ancient date are St. Giles' Hospital and St. Ethelbert's Alms Houses; the former, which is situated without St. Owen's Gate, was originally founded in the year 1290 for Friars Grisey or Savignian Monks, but afterwards became the property of the Knights Templars; on being seized by the crown, it was given by Richard the Second to this city, and appropriated to the purpose of an Alms-house, in which five poor men are supported, each being allowed 4l. 10s. monthly, and clothes every third year. In the year 1770, this hospital was rebuilt by voluntary subscription; to each residence is a piece of garden ground attached.

St. Ethelbert's Alms-House was erected in the reign of Henry III. principally by indulgences and relaxations of penances, which were granted by the Bishops of Hereford, Coventry, Salisbury, and Ely, to those who contributed towards it. "The means of support, (says Mr. Duncomb) must have been very considerable at one period, as it appears, by the statutes of the Hospital, that alms were distributed daily to 100 persons, '*ubi centum quotidie refector fuisse, regimus.*' Possibly a portion of the offerings made by those who visited the tomb of Ethelbert, was appropriated to this purpose." The revenues at present amount only to 65*l.* per annum, which are applied to the maintenance of ten poor women, each of whom has an apartment and a garden.

A short distance south-east from the ruins of the Black Friars Monastery is Coningsby Hospital, a charitable foundation, began in the year 1614 by Sir Thomas Coningsby, Knt. on the site of a small hospital, anciently belonging to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. This hospital is endowed with estates in Leicestershire for the reception of two most valuable characters in society, the worn-out soldier, and the superannuated faithful servant. It consists of a corporal, chaplain, and 10 servitors; the corporal or president, who collects the rents, &c. has 20*l.* per annum, and is allowed to marry; and each of the servitors 1*l.* 1*s.*  $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* monthly. The vicarage of Bodenham, with all its appurtenances, was directed, by a codicil in the will of the founder, to be given to the successive chaplains. The adjoining ruins of the Black Friars supplied the materials for this edifice, which was constructed in the form of a quadrangle, and comprised twelve apartments, a chapel, hall, and suitable conveniences; over the door, in the centre of the hospital, are two small Ionic pillars, inclosing a tablet, with the Coningsby arms: the front of the chapel terminates with two arches, over which is the shaft of a cross;

the inside is quite plain ; a piece of garden is attached to each dwelling.

Several other Hospitals and Alms-Houses, both for men and women, are distributed through this city and its suburbs ; and various tablets of donations for the support of the poor, are also hung up in the different churches.

The General Infirmary, which is pleasantly situated near the river, a short distance south-east from the Castle Walks, was first opened for the reception of patients, on the 26th of March, 1776. The original promoter of this institution was the late Rev. Dr. Talbot, rector of Helenswick ; the ground on which it was built was given by the late Earl of Oxford ; and the expense of the building itself was defrayed by a very ample subscription, chiefly raised among the nobility and gentry of the county ; the annual subscriptions, for defraying the expenses of the Institution, amount to about 400*l*. In this edifice are accommodations for 70 persons, with every convenience for attendants and nurses. It continues to be ably conducted, and well supported by subscriptions and bequests.

The Lunatic Asylum is situated on the north-east of the Infirmary, and was erected for the reception of 20 patients afflicted with insanity : this also was instituted by subscription ; but is now converted into a private receptacle for lunatics, under very judicious and skilful superintendence.

The education of the youthful poor is provided for by a Charity School, called the Blue School, which is partly supported by voluntary contributions, and partly by the revenues arising from donations and legacies ; in this school 50 boys and 30 girls receive instruction and clothing, and small sums are given to provide many of them with apprenticeships. There are also Schools on Dr. Bell's system, for boys and girls, which are well supported.

The new County Hall, which stands on the site formerly occupied by the County Gaol, and some

adjoining premises, near St. Peter's Church, is an interesting and noble building, worthy alike of the County and Mr. Smirke, the Architect, under whose directions, and the able superintendence of Mr. Heather, builder of Hereford, it was erected in 1817. The front or portico, of stone, is supported by eight fluted pillars of the Grecian Doric, resting on a flight of steps, and surmounted by a pediment; under are ornaments of the Doric order, consisting of triglyphs with metopes between, and mutes above. Three plain doors lead into the entrance Hall, terminating with a flight of steps, leading to the County Hall, and from the entrance Hall are passages to the courts of law, apartments for the judges, over the grand jury and record rooms; and the seats of the magistrates, council, and jury, in court, as also the offices of the clerk of the peace. The *Crown Court* occupies the north side, and the *Nisi Prius Court* the south side of the building, with seats for those who wish to hear the trials, and each point is beautifully fitted up with solid oak on a plain, combining convenience and elegance for the administration of justice. The Crown Court, has a subterraneous passage, by which the felons are brought into court, and they are kept, during the trials, in an apartment for the purpose. The County Hall, where the music meetings and county meetings are held, is a spacious and lofty room, excellently adapted for the occasions, and it is adorned with beautiful portraits of the late King George III. and the late Duke of Norfolk. Under it, is the dépôt for the arms of the Militia. The County Hall is, in length, 70 feet 6 inches, in breadth, 48 feet, and 56 feet high. The two Courts are each 46 feet long, 39 wide, and 26 feet high. The building is highly ornamental to the city.

The Old Shire Hall stands in an area, called the High Town, nearly in the centre of the city: it is composed principally of wood, and forms an oblong square; its length being 84 feet, and its breadth



34; at present it consists of only one floor, supported on three ranges of pillars; but in its original state (says Mr. Duncomb) "it had a second floor, divided into apartments for the accommodation of the fourteen trading companies of the city, viz. bakers, barbers and barber-surgeons, blacksmiths, braziers, butchers, clothiers, coopers, cordwainers, glovers, joiners, mercers, tanners, tilers, and weavers." This floor was removed some time since from motives of safety. Under the Shire Hall the markets for grain are held, and near it a market for vegetables. This edifice is supposed to have been erected in the reign of James I. by John Abel, the expert carpenter who constructed the mills on which the safety of the city so much depended during the siege in the year 1645.

Near the old Shire Hall, on the north side, are the public markets, erected in 1815, for the sale of poultry, butter, butcher's meat, fish, &c. &c. on market days, and are excellently adapted for the purposes for which they were erected. The markets are well supplied with the finest poultry and meat, and the prices are generally reasonable. Adjoining to the markets, at the entrance from Widemarsh Street, are the Guild Hall, and City Sessions room, where the business of the city is transacted, and also the Hereford Saving Bank.

The County Gaol, which, as before mentioned, occupies the site of the Priory of St. Guthlac, was completed in the year 1797, under the superintendence and from the designs of Mr. J. Nash. It is inclosed within a high brick wall, having a handsome rusticated gateway, with Tuscan pillars; the keeper's apartments have also a rustic front and pediment. The prison is very extensive and well managed, having a house of correction, work-shop, inspection-room, infirmary, chapel, debtor's rooms, &c. together with four courts and gardens. The expense of erecting this edifice, which is clean and well regulated, amounted to upwards of 18,000*l*.



The City Gaol formerly composed one side of Bye Street gate, over which, in niches, were two rude representations of human figures chained. This prison bears marks of considerable antiquity, and contains one small cell, and three very high apartments, with a window in each; by the interposition of Mr. Nield, a dungeon, beneath this prison, which was formerly used for the purpose of confinement, has been converted into a cellar. It has latterly, been greatly improved.

The permanent Library is in St. John Street, and contains an excellent and constantly increasing collection of books. The subscribers are numerous, and the establishment is well supported. Near the library, is a billiard room, open to subscribers to it and their friends.

The Wye Bridge is supposed to have been constructed about the end of the 15th century; it consists of six arches, one of which was rebuilt after the siege in the year 1645, the former one having been destroyed to prevent the approach of the Scots. By the construction of this arch, the height of the bridge was considerably reduced, which has given it an irregular appearance.

Among other amusements, such as concerts, assemblies, &c., a company of players, who are accommodated with a neat little theatre in the Broad Street, furnish entertainment for the inhabitants every other winter. In a plain, known by the name of Widemarsh, is a horse course, on which races are usually run in the month of August; these are succeeded by balls in the evening. Once in three years, in the month of September, is held a meeting of the three choirs of Worcester, Hereford, and Gloucester, at which time, oratorios, and other pieces of sacred music, are performed, for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the inferior clergy, by the gentlemen of the three choirs, assisted by some of the principal performers from Oxford and London. On the evening of each day there is a concert at the music

room; this is repeated during the course of three days.

Some years ago there was carried on a considerable manufactory of gloves at this place, but it is at present on the decline; large quantities of cider, grain, and oak bark, are conveyed down the river to Bristol, and other places; and by means of the same navigation, the city is supplied with coals from the Forest of Dean.

The weekly-markets are on Wednesdays and Saturdays, for poultry, butter, eggs, &c.; and on Friday, for live-stock: also a great market on St. Andrew's day, for cattle, horses, &c. Fairs, first Tuesday after February 2; Wednesday in Easter-week, July 1, and October 20. At this last, a considerable quantity of salted butter is brought from the adjacent counties of Wales.

Hereford gives the title of Viscount to the family of Devereux, the creation of which title was in the reign of Edward VI. It sends two members to parliament, the first return being made in the reign of Edward I. The right of election is vested in the freemen only, whose number is supposed to amount to about 1200.

The first regular grant of privileges to the inhabitants of Hereford, as an incorporated body, appears to have been in the time of Henry III.; these were confirmed, and occasionally enlarged, in the eighth of Edward II., and the first and fifth of Edward III., and the seventh of Richard II., when the name of bailiff, which had been before given to the chief magistrate, was changed to that of mayor: this charter was further confirmed by succeeding princes to the time of James I., who, in a new charter, consolidated the privileges of the inhabitants, and ordained that the corporation should thenceforth consist of a mayor, six aldermen, and common council, having a chief steward, a common clerk, a prothonotary, a sword-bearer, and four sergeants at mace; the common council to consist of

31 persons, including the mayor and six aldermen. This charter, under which the city is still governed, was wrested from the inhabitants in the reign of Charles II. but was restored towards the conclusion of the reign of his successor, and confirmed by William III. in the ninth year of his reign.

Hereford is situated 135 miles from London, and consists, according to the late returns, of 1763 houses, and 9090 inhabitants.

Few cities have latterly been more improved in appearance than Hereford, by removing old buildings, erecting new ones, widening the streets, and other measures of public utility and private convenience. It is governed by a Mayor, and six Common Council Men or Magistrates; is paved and lighted under the superintendence of commissioners appointed for the purpose; and, throughout the year, watchmen are on duty during the night, who are paid by an assessment on the inhabitants. Its Charitable Institutions are numerous, in well-endowed Hospitals, under the governorship of the Magistrates and Corporation, who discharge the duty with exemplary rectitude, and the benevolence of individuals support the Infirmary, Charity schools, a Lying-in Charity, a Benevolent Society for the relief of the destitute poor, oppressed by sickness and disease, and other charitable Institutions. Its situation, in a valley richly cultivated and grand by the meandering beauties of the Wye, is healthy and beautiful, and its neighbourhood abounds with delightful walks and rides, where landscapes, grand and lovely, claim the admiration and gratify the feelings of the beholder, on every side.

A meeting of the inhabitants of Hereford was held, in the summer of 1822, to take into consideration the propriety of erecting a bridge over the Severn, to shorten the distance between Hereford and Cheltenham, and facilitate the communication with London. E.B. Clive, esq. in stating the advantages of the measure, said that nearly seven miles would be

saved between that city and Cheltenham. The resolutions of the meeting were agreed to.

Many persons of considerable eminence and celebrity have been born in this city; among those who have been most distinguished are Eleanor Gwynn, or as she was more familiarly denominated, Nell Gwynn, and David Garrick, Esq. The former was born in an humble dwelling in Pipe Lane, but becoming an inhabitant of the metropolis, she was engaged in the service of a fruiterer, and in that profession first appeared in the lobby of a theatre. From the sprightliness of her temper, and the affection of the manager, she was introduced upon the stage, and quickly became a general favourite, and soon attracted the notice of Charles II. who was so much interested by her vivacity and humour, that he made her a partner of his bed. She did not, however, immediately quit the theatre, but still continued to display her talents in the sprightly effusions of the comic muse. About the year 1670, she was delivered of a son, who was afterwards created Duke of St. Alban's; and her grandson attained the honours of prelacy, and became the proprietor of that very episcopal palace, which almost adjoined the humble cot where his maternal ancestor first drew her breath. In the high sphere in which she was placed she displayed great liberality, and at that period, her situation, not being considered in the least disgraceful, she obtained a considerable degree of popular approbation; and even to the present day her memory has been cherished with a much greater portion of general esteem than is usually obtained by the mistresses of profligate monarchs; but her errors have been eclipsed by her munificence; and her generosity in promoting the establishment of Chelsea Hospital, will preserve the remembrance of her name to the latest ages; even the idea of that admirable institution is traditionally said to have originated with her. She died in the year 1691, at her house in Pall Mall.

David Garrick, an actor of inimitable powers, was born at the Angel Inn, in Widemarsh Street, in the year 1717. His father, who was a French refugee, at that time held a lieutenant's commission in a regiment of horse then quartered in this city, but the place of his general residence being at Litchfield, young Garrick and his mother were removed there, as soon as the latter had recovered her health. His education, which was liberal, though principally intended to fit him for mercantile pursuits, was partly obtained at the Litchfield Grammar-school, and partly under the tuition of Dr. Johnson, who at a subsequent period accompanied his pupil to London, in search of employment. Garrick, having previously been an assistant in the wine trade to his uncle, who was a Lisbon merchant, embarked in the same business with his brother in the metropolis, but having early imbibed a passion for the stage, he was at length induced to engage in the theatrical profession, and in the summer of 1741, he made his first public appearance, at the Ipswich Theatre, under the assumed name of Lyddal, in the character of Aboan, in Oroonoko. His success was so great, that it determined him at once to make the stage his ultimate pursuit; and in the December following he appeared at London, at the theatre in Goodman's Fields, in the character of Richard the Third. In this character he displayed such excellence, and the seeing a young man, in no more than his 24th year, and a novice to the stage, reaching at one single step to that height of perfection which maturity of years and long practical experience had not been able to bestow on the then capital performers of the English stage, was a phenomenon which could not but become the object of universal admiration; even in a sister country his talents proved no less attractive, and such crowds attended his performances at the Dublin theatre, that the confined air, combining with the heat of the weather, produced a fever, which proved fatal to many



and was distinguished by the name of Garrick's Fever. On his return from Ireland, he was engaged at Drury Lane Theatre, of which, in the year 1747, he became joint patentee with Mr. Lacy, and opened it in the ensuing winter under his own management. His exertions were accompanied with every degree of success, till the season of 1754, when the enmity of public prejudice having been excited by his engaging a number of foreigners to fill up the parts in various dances and balls, which he had projected to introduce; but being aware of the intended opposition, he obtained a kind of sanction for the performance of the first piece, which was entitled the "Chinese Festival," from the king, by whose command it was once played, without any particular disturbance; but on the second night of its representation, the clamour increased to riot, and the interior of the theatre was rendered a complete ruin, the benches being torn up, the lustres and girandoles broken, and the scenery destroyed; and the protection of the soldiery was necessary to preserve the house from demolition. In consequence of this, it became necessary to withdraw the piece, and proper explanations having been published, the tumult subsided, and Garrick again became the general favourite. In the year 1763 his health being impaired, he made the tour of France and Italy, and on his return introduced several considerable improvements in the modes of conducting the business of the stage. In the year 1776, his increasing infirmities, however, compelled him to abandon his profession as an actor, and his retirement was universally lamented among the admirers of the drama: his last performance was the character of Don Felix, in the Wonder. In January, in the same year, he sold his moiety of the theatre to the late R. B. Sheridan, Esq. and two other persons, for 35,000*l*. He died on the 20th of January, 1779, at his house in the Adelphi, after an afflicting illness of several years, and was buried in Wetsminster Abbey, where



a monument has been erected to his memory. Great praise is due to Garrick for his judicious revival of many old plays, particularly Shakspeare's: he was himself likewise the writer of several excellent dramatic pieces, besides numerous prologues and epilogues of distinguished merit.

We find another literary gentleman who did honour to his native city of Hereford, in the person of William Havard, Esq. who died in May, 1811, at his house at South Lambeth, in the 76th year of his age. He was one of the partners in the city and county bank of Hereford, a gentleman whose industry, benevolence, integrity, and worth, entitle his memory to more than ordinary notice. Mr. Havard was born in St. Owen's-street, Hereford, where his parents kept a small shop; and their circumstances were so remote from affluence, that when (like his countryman Whittington) he left his native place to pursue his fortunes in the metropolis, he had not sixpence in his pocket on his arrival in London. From this period, such was the perseverance, ability, and success with which he applied himself to business, that he gradually rose, with increasing honour and esteem, from clerk to partner, in the house of Mr. Jones, M. P. for Devizes, in Mansion-house-street. Thus becoming enrolled in the first class of British merchants, Mr. Havard was frequently consulted in the most difficult and important adjustments of mercantile accounts; and has now bequeathed to five daughters more than 10,000*l.* each, the fruits of his own exertions and personal industry. His house and the hospitalities of his table were not only open to his countrymen in general, but many of his younger friends, from Hereford, will gratefully acknowledge how materially they have been aided by his powerful interest, and valuable advice. Nor were these the only prominent features of ability and worth in the character of Mr. Havard: 'The Banks of the Lug, and other similar effusions, acknowledge him as no despicable poet; but perhaps it is less known, that

he not only aided Mr. Dibdin, in his work called *The Bye-Stander*, but also contributed some of those popular productions which are so happily calculated to excite the daring of our gallant tars. Of these, the well-known words of "*My Poll and my Partner Joe*," were written by Mr. Havard; and it is said that 20,000 copies of that ballad were sold within a very short period after its publication.

On leaving Hereford, we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of four miles, pass through the small village of Callow, two miles to the south-east of which, on the summit of a bold and extensive eminence, called Aconbury Hill, which is partly covered with young wood, and commands a most delightful view over the adjacent country, are the traces of a large camp, of a square form, the rampart on the east side of which is very conspicuous.

At the village of ACONBURY, situated about one mile to the east, was a nunnery of the order of St. Augustine, founded and endowed in the time of King John, by Margery, wife of Walter de Lacy; its revenues, at the time of the dissolution, were estimated at 75*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* per annum. This estate is now the property of Guy's Hospital, having been purchased with Wilton Castle, and other estates in this county, belonging to the Lords Chandos, during the last century. The remains of the nunnery have been fitted up as a farm-house.

At the distance of about five miles from Callow, on the left of our road, is Harewood, the ancient residence of the Hoskyns family, and now the residence of Sir H. Hoskyns, Bart. The mansion, which is situated in a park well wooded, is a plain structure, and has been much improved, and partly rebuilt by the present owner.

About one mile and a half to the south of Harewood is the village of Hén-llan, commonly called HENTLAND, which Taylor observes, in his history of gavel kind, "*signifies the Old Church*, and in

certain pastures belonging to a farm in that parish, there is a place which to this day is called Llanfrawtwr, which is as much as to say, the Church or Convent of the Brethren; the site whereof was upon a small hill, not half a mile distant from Hentland; the ruins of which place, with its old foundations, are yet to be seen, and was a place dedicated to holy use: there it was that the great college for one hundred students was founded by St. Dubricius, the prince of this region, (to repel the progress of Pelagian heresie), who succeeded his grandfather Pibanus, King of Ergin, the old name of Urchenfield, and in the days of King Arthur was made Archbishop of Caerleon." At particular seasons, the foundation of extensive buildings may still be traced on the summit of an eminence rising from the western bank of the Wye; all the materials, however, that were above ground, have been used in the construction of walls, &c.

A short distance to the south-west of Hentland is an ancient square camp, called *Geer Copp*, and about two miles to the north-east, on a hill, is another but smaller camp, called Caradoc, or Cradock, which is also the name of a seat here, belonging to the Digby family. The manor-house, which is a venerable building, is pleasantly situated on a bank rising above the Wye.

A considerable district in this part of the county was formerly comprehended by the name of Irchenfeld, of which Mr. Gough says, a learned author affirms, that he has seen a record, wherein the inhabitants of this district "are left, as it were, to their own liberty, and to be *extra comitatum*; that is, not bound up to any strictness by the country laws; lastly, the tenure whereby they hold their lands is gavelkind, which is a partition among all female children; with this difference only to the eldest son, that certain principals as they call them, pass to him as heirlooms, and are not subject to partition; such as the best beast, the best bed and furniture, the best table,

&c. which tenure, and those other enumerated customs, they do for the most part still retain as derived to them from great antiquity, even before the Norman Conquest; for they are recorded to have been *Consuetudines Walensium tempore regis Edwardi Confessoris*.

These customs were as follow: "if any stole from the Welch, man or woman, horse, ox, or cow, he was, on conviction, to restore the thing stolen, and forfeit 20s. but for a sheep, or bundle of *manipuli* (i. e. clothes), 2s. Whoever killed one of the king's men, and fled, was to forfeit to the king 20s. for the murder, and 100s. forfeit: if the man belonged to a thane, the forfeit to the man's master was to be 10s. If one Welchman killed another, the relations of the deceased were to meet, and plunder the goods of the murderer and his relations, and burn their houses, till the body was buried about noon of the following day: the king was to have his third of the booty, and all the rest was to remain to them. Whoever was charged with firing a house, and could not clear himself by forty compurgators, was to forfeit 20s. to the king. Whoever was convicted of concealing one pint of honey in the custom, was to forfeit five pints for one, if his lands yielded as much. If the sheriff called them to the shire-mot, six or seven of the best were to go with him; and whoever refused to go on summons, was to forfeit 2s. or an ox to the king, *et qui de hundredet remanet* was to pay as much; the like fine for disobeying the sheriff's precept to go with him into Wales; for if the sheriff did not go, no one else need." (*Gough's Camden*.)

The district of Irchinfield frequently occurs in Welsh writings by the name of *Urging*, and is stated to have anciently been governed by independent sovereigns. At present there is no hundred of the name of Irchinfield; but the deanery so called includes the whole hundred of Wormelow, and one parish in Webtree.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of about seven miles from Harewood, on the western bank of the Wye, are the ruins of Wilton Castle, the present demolished state of which was owing to the royalist governors of Hereford, by whose orders it was burnt to the bare walls during the reign of Charles I. and in the absence of its then possessor, Sir J. Brydges. The remaining towers display a luxuriant mantling of ivy. For several centuries this castle was the baronial residence of the Greys, who derived from it their first title, and who became owners in the time of Edward I.

After crossing the river Wye, and at the distance of three quarters of a mile from Wilton Castle, we arrive at Ross, a market town, situated, upon a rock, on the eastern bank of the river Wye. It was made a free borough by Henry III. the bishops of Hereford being its lords, who formerly had a palace here, on a plot of ground near the church-yard; but this was in ruins even in Leland's time: the site is still called the Bishop's court.

The streets are mostly on a descent; and are extremely rough and narrow, the houses appearing huddled upon each other. The market-house is in a very decayed state, though erected so lately as the reign of Charles II. it is built of stone, and ascended by several steps; the upper part being sustained on semicircular arches, supported by three ranges of pillars, the space between them being open.

The Church, which is a handsome structure, having a tower, and well-proportioned spire, rising from the west-end, contains several monuments of the Rudhalls, the ancient proprietors of the manor of Rudhall, in this neighbourhood, and in the window over the altar, among other fragments of painted glass, is one representing a bishop, with the following inscription, THOMAS HEREFORDENSIS. The views from the church-yard, and contiguous field, called the prospect ground, are much celebrated for

their picturesque scenery; immediately below the eye, the river forms a fine semicircle, at one of the extremities of which are the ruins of Wilton Castle, and beyond it an extensive and luxuriant vale, terminated by the distant mountains of Pembrokeshire; indeed this town, from the pleasantness of its situation, has of late years become a kind of favourite resort for the numerous summer parties, who visit the Wye; and boats, &c. are kept here for the accommodation of those who make an excursion down the river.

The origin of Ross does not appear to be remote, though a few coins and medals have been found here, but not more than one or two of the Roman times, and probably these were originally brought from the ruins of Ariconium: neither do the annals of this town record any events of eminent historical interest; the adventitious lustre which it has obtained from its inhabitant, John Kyrle, the celebrated Man of Ross, has nevertheless given it a degree of attraction far beyond its local importance. This distinguished model of benevolence was born at Whitehouse, in Gloucestershire, and resided in the house now converted into the King's Arms Inn, in this town, where he spent his income (about 500*l.* a year,) in acts of utility and benevolence. He died in the year 1724, at the age of 84, and was buried in Ross Church; on his monument is a medallion of Charity supported by Benevolence. Among other public works, the prospect ground, adjoining the church-yard, and the walk that extends thence for nearly a mile to the southward, were formed by his liberality; he likewise raised the spire of the church, and enclosed a piece of ground with a stone wall, in which he sunk a reservoir for the use of the inhabitants. The exemplary tenor of his actions, his extensive charities, and goodness of heart, procured him the love of all his contemporaries, and Mr. Pope, during his visits at Holm Lacy, having obtained a sufficient knowledge of his beneficence, ren-



dered due homage to his worth in his Moral Essays, in which he thus celebrates, in glowing colours, but in this instance attempered by the pencil of truth, the virtues of this truly philanthropic character:

“Who hung with woods yon mountain’s sultry brow?  
 From the dry rock who bade the waters flow?  
 Not to the skies in useless columns tost,  
 Nor in proud falls magnificently lost,  
 But clear and artless, pouring through the plain  
 Health to the sick, and solace to the swain.  
 Whose causeway parts the vale with shady rows;  
 Whose seats the weary traveller repose?  
 Who taught that heav’n-directed spire to rise?  
 ‘THE MAN OF ROSS,’ each lisping babe replies!  
 Behold the market-place with poor o’erspread!  
 The Man of Ross divides the weekly bread;  
 He feeds yon alms-house, neat, but void of state,  
 Where age and want sit smiling at the gate;  
 Him portion’d maids, apprentic’d orphans blest;  
 The young who labour, and the old who rest.  
 Is any sick? the Man of Ross relieves,  
 Prescribes, attends, the med’cine makes and gives.  
 Is there a variance; enter but his door,  
 Balk’d are the courts, and contest is no more.

\* \* \* \* \*

Of debts and taxes, wife and children clear,  
 This man possesseth five hundred pounds a-year. [blaze!  
 Blush grandeur, blush! proud courts withdraw your  
 Ye little stars! hide your diminish’d rays.”

The government of the town of Ross is vested in a sergeant and four constables. In Camden’s time it was noted for its iron-works, which are yet carried on, with some trade in cider and wool. Here are two charity schools. Its market is on Thursday, which is well supplied with cattle, it is situated 124 miles from London, and contains, according to the late population act, 445 houses, and 1977 inhabitants.

At the distance of two miles from Ross, we pass through the village of WESTON, about one mile to

the east of which is the site of a Roman station, called Rose, or Bury Hill, which is supposed by some writers to have been the *Ariconium* of Antoninus: but which Camden, who records a tradition of its having been ruined by an earthquake, has placed at Kenchester. The area on which the city stood, according to tradition, occupied three or four fields. About forty or fifty years ago many antiquities were found here, together with an immense quantity of Roman coins, and some British; among the antiquities were fibulæ, lares, lachrymatories, lamps, rings, and fragments of tessellated pavements. Some pillars were also discovered, with stones, having holes for the jambs of doors, and a vault or two, in which was wheat, of a black colour, and in a cinereous state; and lately, in widening a road, several skeletons were likewise discovered here, as also the remains of a stone wall, apparently the front of a building: the stones were well worked and of a considerable size.

About one mile southward of Bury Hill, is the site of Eccleswall castle, which is now occupied by a modern mansion. This estate formerly belonged to the Talbots, from whom it came into the possession of the Greys, lords of Wilton; it has, however, since passed from their descendants into other hands.

Returning to our road, at the distance of one mile from Weston, we arrive at the village of RIFORD, about one mile to the west of which is the site of Penyard Castle, which stood on the south side of the eminence. This fortress, which was originally of but small extent, is now reduced to comparative insignificance; the only part now bearing the name of castle, is the habitation of a woodward, who lives here in complete seclusion from the haunts of man. This humble dwelling has a pointed window, and an octagonal embattled chimney; and in the garden, which occupies part of the area of the fortress, some massy fragments of wall are yet visible, together with groined arches, and vestiges of pillars. In clearing the space for the garden many

human bones have been found, interred beneath a mass of small tiles, forced obliquely into the ground; and in digging among the ruins, a few years since, a kind of vestibule, or spacious passage was discovered, with octagon pilasters, having caps and bases in the Saxon style, from which spring semicircular groined arches, with handsome mouldings in good preservation.

The origin of this fortress is unknown; it appears, however, to have been constructed for the purpose of defending the narrow pass through the woods from Gloucestershire towards the counties of Monmouth and Pembroke, by the way of Walford and Goodrich; it also appears that the lords of Goodrich Castle were at times the lords of Penyard Castle; and among others the celebrated Talbots, earls of Shrewsbury. This castle was demolished during the Civil Wars, and after the Restoration, belonged to Anthony, Earl of Kent, but has since passed through several hands, and is now the property of William Partridge, of Goodrich, Esq.

On an eminence to the west of this castle is a large square camp, now partly overgrown by woods.

Between two and three miles to the west of Penyard Castle, on a finely-wooded promontory, round which the river Wye flows in a semicircular direction, are the massive ruins of Goodrich Castle. The earliest authentic accounts of this castle, are dated 1204; when William Marshall, earl of Pembroke, had a grant of it from king John. It afterwards was inherited by the Talbot family. During the civil wars, the king's party, and the parliament forces, alternately obtained possession of it. The following directions are from the second Number of Bonner's "Itinerary," which contains ten excellent views of the Castle, Abbey, &c. Having crossed the river at the ferry-boat, and a stile upon the left, proceed to the right, to the upper end of the close; and in the next meadow, a wicker stile conducts you, by a plain path, to the top of a steep wood, when the great

West Tower of the inner ballium breaks into view. Its appearance is venerable and interesting, but it is rapidly yielding to the ravages of time. On the right of this tower is the square keep, called *Mackbeth's Tower*, said to have been built by one Mackbeth, an Irish commander, as a ransom for himself and son, who were taken prisoners in Ireland, and brought hither. From the broken part to which the ground leads up, is a descent into the inner ballium, through a breach, by some stone steps. The door leads to the dungeon. Below this and Mackbeth's tower, are the small remains of the wall of the inner ballium, attached to the tower, which is finely hooded with ivy. The great buttress which it covers, is the chimney-place. The openings beyond and broken projections of the angle, belong to the *Ladies' Tower*. The ground below is the outer ballium. A station to the right, parallel with the former, facing the great tower, produces a view in front of the *South Tower* of the inner ballium, with the west and east towers as they flank the walls of the inner ballium. This tower is bedecked with ivy, and propped by angular buttresses. The west tower from this station presents a chasm not seen from the former. The broken parts upon the top of the wall, were the barracks; the higher projecting part adjoining, is the tower, which contains the chapel. The top of this and that of the watch-house, was the situation of the corps de garde. The bridge and castle gate, are defended upon each side by this and another tower at the east angle; the former has one semicircular arch, and another acutely pointed. The top is the level of the ground in the inner ballium, and the bottom of the pier is the depth of the fosse, graffe, or ditch of the ballium, which is hewn out of the rock to the breadth of twenty yards. From some trees, seen above the highest part of the castle, may be taken an inside view from the inner ballium. After the castle gate, that which is pointed was the only entrance to the

inner ballium: its strong hinges still remain; over it is the warden's apartment. The large opening is the window of the chapel, in the earliest Saracenic style. From a door-way in this part is seen the inside, without a roof. There is a large projecting fire-place, for a room over it, and below a cellar, with brackets which supported the floors, and a place for holy water in the chapel. The octagon contains a staircase which leads to the apartments over the chapel and gate. The top of it is the Watch Tower, rising above the other buildings. An inside view from the inner ballium, presents an opening in front, through which the rock, &c. is seen on the opposite side of the fosse or ditch; this is the effect of decay. It was the station from which the last description was made. Proceed to the inner ballium, and enter the door of the keep, or Mackbeth's Tower, which is a prominent part of the building. The windows are Saxon, the frames, pillars, with round shafts, bases, and caps. Below the upper window is a cheveron work, or zig-zag ornament, which is continued upon a fillet all round. The top is imperfect, but the whole bears indications of the twelfth century. The chapel appears to have been fitted up at a much later period. It answers completely to the description of an ancient keep: this part was likewise the citadel, or last retreat of the garrison; generally built square, of several stories, and the walls of an extraordinary thickness. Inside of the north-west wall, is a hole broken through. Nothing remains but the square area, the fire-places, and the brackets which supported the floors. On the south-east is a door which descends into a vaulted room under ground, and appears to have been the dungeon; it has another door which leads to it by a deep fall, and a third which is seen about the midway of the broken stone steps leading to the apartments in the south tower, to the parapet of the south-west wall, now decayed. The door at the foot of the steps leads to the under parts of the south tower, the whole of

which is connected with a range of apartments, which appear to have been either the barracks and lodgings, for the garrison and artificers, or granaries, storehouses, &c. unconnected with the other apartments, which were for the baron or governor, and family. The three small doors near the corner, lead to the privies, where is a deep vault belonging to them. The wall is garreted, but much broken; the openings are narrow windows and chinks, or cross loop-holes. The inner wall of these barracks may still be traced. The great pointed door-way is the entrance to the Great Hall, the building above it is the walls of the great tower. On viewing the inside of the Ladies' Tower, the apartment on the left appears to have been the kitchen, by the doors descending into the offices, cellars, &c. of that tower, in which the octagon pillar, and two sharp-pointed Saracenic arches, springing from corresponding brackets, which project from the side-walls, form a great contrast to the more ancient parts of the building. The track from this station proceeds to the window, whence a most cheerful view is presented over the Wye, with the village of Walford, its handsome church, and shingled spire, Walford Court-house, and the surrounding woods and hills. The terminating objects are the bold coppices of Penyard Chace and Park, Bishop's Wood, &c. Hence through the inner ballium gate, the track leads to the door and narrow passage of the two Watch-houses. Proceeding over the bridge you enter upon the barbican, now nearly level with the ground. From this station may be taken a general view of the castle, taking in front the fosse, and on the left the south tower, with the square part attached to it, and the keep rising beyond, over the wall of the inner ballium, which is from seven to ten feet thick. The foremost projecting part is the tower, flanking the wall, and contains the chapel. The broken loop-hole was a window to the cellar below it. Upon the level surface of the bridge, is



the pit of the draw-bridge, near the castle gate. This gate has sliding grooves for a portcullis. Re-enter the inner ballium, within which were the barracks and lodgings for the garrison and artificers, wells, granaries, store-houses, and chapel. Next visit the Great Hall, on entering which, immediately on the left, are stone steps, leading to the upper part of the Great Tower, &c. proceed through a small door, and looking up, only plain walls are to be seen, except fire-places, and brackets for the two floors. A breach in the wall allows a passage to the outer ballium. Returning, there are two small doors in the partition wall, besides one to pass through, leading to the Great Hall. There is here a large fire-place and three slender windows, with cross mullions, in the wall. In the wall is a small door leading to the kitchen, and another to the offices under the Ladies' Tower. Hence proceed back to the door you entered by the kitchen on the left, looking through the breach as you pass. Thence into the cellars of the Ladies' Tower, where is the octagon pillar, with its arches and pendent ivy. Proceed through a broken part of the North Tower, at the angle of the outer ballium, whence is a view of the breach made at the Ladies' Tower of the inner ballium. It was Colonel Birch who is said to have battered this part, through which is seen the octagon pillar, with the trees in the court over-topping the walls.

*Flanesford* (now called Goodrich) *Priory*, is situated in a fertile vale, about a quarter of a mile below the castle. It was a monastery of black canons regular of St. Augustine, founded 1347, by sir Richard Talbot. It is now used as a barn.

After contemplating the venerable remains of this castle, the beauties of the surrounding country are worth exploring, and may be accomplished in an easy walk. By descending thence to the river, and bending a course along its banks, for about three quarters of a mile, *Copped Wood Hill* is presented. The ascent will be relieved by a perpetual change

of scenery. The northern extremity should be first attained where the current of the river dashes against the base of the rock; whence it glides in a horse-shoe course of five miles, and revisits the hill again at its southern extremity, at the distance only of one mile across the neck of land. Penyard Park and Chase, form a noble back scenery; and Bishop's Wood, intersected with small groves and thickets, diversified with rocks, neat cottages, and detached enclosures, presents a striking peculiarity of style. If you proceed a little further, to a small white building, formerly the residence of a rabbit warrener, you command a view of the counties of Hereford, Monmouth, Salop, Worcester, and Gloucester, in England; and those of Glamorgan, Brecon, and Radnor, in Wales. The less distant parts of the picture are enriched by the village of Ruardean, three miles to the East, in the Forest of Dean, appearing hence on the summit of a beautiful lawn, winged by firs and forest oaks, with the river at its foot. To the north appears the spire of Ross, rising out of lofty elms. In the circle, nearer to view, are the villages of Whitchurch, Goodrich, Croose, Pencreek, and Walford. For a mile in length the surface of this hill is nearly level, exceeding pleasant and safe, whether on foot or on horseback. Proceeding along the path, you have in view the old mansion, venerable woods, and hanging gardens, of Court Field. Henry Prince of Wales, born 1388, at Monmouth Castle, and therefore called Harry of Monmouth, was nursed here. The cradle is now in the possession of — Whitehead, Esq. of Hambrook, French Hay, near Bristol. From the excellent quarry of this place, the stone was supplied for building the bridge at Bristol; whence an interesting view may be seen of Bishop's Wood Furnace. Here, and at the New-Wear, business seems to have found a convenient situation even in retirement. The village of Lidbrook, whence the city and greatest part of the county of Hereford are supplied with coal; the

churches of Welsh and English Bicknor, and Stanton, and Forest of Dean, contribute to the enrichment of the view. When arrived at the extremity which is bounded by the river, a range of massy and stupendous rocks, on the summit of the opposite shore, excites an awful admiration. The largest and most elevated of these rocks is called Symond's Yat or Gate; and is often visited by large parties, in the summer months, for the sake of the extraordinary prospects from it. Welsh Bicknor Church, lies at the distance of about half a mile from Court-field, and is visited by the antiquary on account of a sepulchral effigy, said to represent the countess of Salisbury, who nursed Harry of Monmouth, or Henry the Fifth. Mr. Coxe concludes his history of the proprietors of this manor with the following anecdote of the vigorous old age of an ancestor of the present proprietor. Walking one day with his son, who had been long married without issue, he challenged him to leap over a gate. The son attempted it without success; on which the old gentleman vaulted over it with great agility, adding, "As I have cleared the gate for you, so I must e'en provide you with an heir." And he fulfilled his proposal by espousing, at the age of seventy-five, Agatha, daughter of John Berrington, Esq. of Cowame-court, Herefordshire, by whom he left a son and three daughters.

About two miles to the east of Goodrich, are the iron works of Bishop's-wood furnace, and some powerful engines for stamping the ancient scorixæ, &c. to powder, which is manufactured here to considerable advantage.

*Journey from Ludford Bridge to Welsh Newton,  
through Leominster and Hereford.*

Ludford Bridge is situated at the northern extremity of the county, over the river Teme, on the borders of Shropshire: on leaving which we proceed in a southerly direction, and at the distance of about four miles, pass, on our right, Richard's Castle, a fortress erected before the conquest, but of which

scarcely any vestige now remains. "This castle (says Leland) standeth on the toppe of a very rocky hill; and at the west end of the parochie church ther, the keep, the walles, and the towers of it stand, but going to ruine: ther is a park impaled, and welle-wooded, but no deer."

At the distance of about ten miles, after passing through the villages of Overton, Bilberry, Poatway, and Luston, we arrive at LEOMINSTER, a market-town, situated in a very rich and fertile vale, abounding with orchards, hop-yards, fine meadows, and arable lands, the river Lugg flowing on its north and east sides, and two smaller streams run through the town. Its extent from north to south is nearly a mile, and from east to west, about half that distance. The streets in the centre of the town are narrow, and several of the houses are built of old timber and plaster, fantastically adorned with curious grotesque carvings, and coloured white and black, which have a most singular appearance; most of the modern buildings, however, and which have much increased, are respectable edifices of brick.

"The towne of Leonminster (says Leland) is metely large, and hath good buildings of tymbre. The towne by reason of their principal wool, use greate drapinge of clothe, and thereby it flourished. Syns of latter days it chanced that the cittyes of Hereford and Worcester complained of the frequency of people that came to Lemster, in prejudice of bothe their markets, in the shyre towne, and also in hindringe their drapinge: whereupon the Saturday markett was removed from Lemster, and a market on Friday was newly assigned unto it: syns that time the towne of Lemster hath decayed.

"The antiquity of the towne is most famous by a *Monastery of Nunnes*, that Merwaldus, Kinge of the Marches, built there, and endowed it with all the land thereabout, saving only the lordships, now

called Kingsland; and it is supposed of Clerkes, that the old name of the towne toke beginning of the Nunnes, and was called in Welsh, Lan-Clheny; that is *locus vel fanum monialium*; and not of a lion that is written to have appeared to King Merwald, upon which vision he began, as it is said, to build this nunnery: other kings of the Marches immediately following King Merwald, were benefactors unto yt. Some say that the nunnery was after in the Danes wars destroyed, and that after a college of prebends set ther: the certenty is known that the abbey of Shaftesbury had rule at Lemster, and possessed much landes there, and sent part of the reliques of St. Edward the Martyr to be adored here. King Henry I. annexed the laws of Lemster to his abbey of Reading, and ther was a cell of monks instituted at Lemster by the abbots of Reading. Some say that the monks of the priory said that they had the scull of the head of Merewald, and of Ethelmund, Kings of Merch. Mr. Hacluit told me that the body of King Merewald was found in a wall in the old church at Wenlock.

“Ther is but one parochie church in Leonminster, but it is large, somewhat dark, and of ancient building, insomuch that yt is a greate likelihood that yt is the church that was afore the Conquest. The church of the priory was hard joined to the east end of the parochie church, and was but a small thinge. The common fame of the people about Lemster is, that King Merewald, and some of his successors, had a castle or palace on a hill by the side of the town of Leonminster, half a mile off by east. The place is now called Comfort Castle, wher be now some tokens of ditches, where buildings have been: the people of Lemster, and thereabouts, com once a year to this place to sport and play.”

At the period of the Doomsday survey, Leominster appears to have become a place of considerable importance, the manor, with its appurtenances, consisting of sixteen dependent estates, which had been



assigned by Edward the Confessor, to his queen Edith, or Editha, and that it was governed by eight *præpositi*, or bailiffs; eight *bedelli*, or beadles; and eight *radchenestri*, or free tenants; and that it contained 238 *villains*, 74 *borderers*, and 82 men and women servants.

The Church, which is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, was erected at different periods; the north side (or what is called the back aisle) with part of the tower, appears to have been built before the Conquest; the body of the church, where service is performed, is very large, neat, and spacious; and the roof is supported by four large Tuscan pillars. It is regularly and neatly paved, and has a fine altar-piece, painted by Rubens, of the Lord's Supper; on the left side is a painting of Moses with his rod; and on the right Aaron, in his high-priest's dress, with a pot of incense, &c. with decorations. There is also a fine-toned organ, and in the tower is a ring of eight tuneable bells. A great fire, about a century back, destroyed the roof, east end, and inside of the church, with the stalls and monuments; one of the latter of which is described in 'Weaver's Monuments,' as being to the memory of Kenelm, a Mercian prince, with an inscription in Saxon characters.

The Priory near the church, mentioned by Leland, was originally a monastery, built by Prince Merewald, son of Pendra, king of Mercia, in the year 658, for religious virgins, and endowed with much land about the town; and at the dissolution its annual revenues amounted to 660l. 18s. 8d. of which sum 448l. was paid to the abbot of Reading. Some of the buildings are yet standing; among them is the Priory House, which, about a century ago, was rented by the corporation, and made a mansion-house for the bailiff, but has since been converted into a house of industry for the poor of the town. The north side, which has undergone the least alteration, has several lancet windows and strong buttresses.



which also support the angles at the east and west ends.

Here is a Baptist meeting-house, a handsome new square brick building, with a house for the minister, and two other dwellings for widows adjoining, built and endowed by the late Mrs. Mary Marlow of this town; there are likewise Meeting-houses for Presbyterians and Quakers, and a Moravian chapel, with the minister's house adjoining; it is a neat plain structure, with a small organ.

The Town Hall or Butter Close, as it is usually termed, was built about the year 1633. It is a singular building, constructed of timber and plaster; the architect was the celebrated John Abel, who built the Shire-hall at Hereford, and constructed the mills during the siege of that city, in the year 1645. This fabric stands on twelve oak pillars, now sustained on stone pedestals, the brackets and spandrils of the arches above the pillars displaying much carving. The quarter sessions are held here, as also the assemblies of the corporation.

A new and neat market-house, for the sale of grain, was erected by the corporation in the year 1803; it is a small building of the Tuscan order, with pediments, and a cupola; it stands in a square to the eastward of the High Street.

Queen Mary endowed a free school in this town, the building of which was anciently a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Here is likewise a school endowed by — Pierrepoint, Esq.

Here are four Alms-houses, founded by Mrs. Esther Clarke, widow, in the year 1735, for four widows, with an annual income of five pounds to each, under the direction of five trustees.

The borough is a distinct precinct from the county; it holds quarter sessions and has a goal and a bridewell; it is divided into six wards, and was incorporated by Queen Mary; being governed by a high steward, a bailiff, a recorder, and twelve capital burgesses, who chuse a bailiff and a town clerk. It

has returned two members to parliament from the 23rd of Edward I. the right of election being in the freemen and inhabitants paying scot and lot, amounting to about 620; the bailiffs are the returning officers.

Formerly Leominster carried on a considerable trade in wool and wheat, which has now decreased. Flax of an excellent quality is grown in the neighbourhood, the land being particularly favourable for that plant. The market originally held on Thursday, has been changed to Friday, on the petition of the inhabitants of the cities of Hereford and Worcester, who complained of the decay of their trade. Its fairs are on the 13th of February, Tuesday after Midlent Sunday, May 14, September 4, and November 8.

Leominster is situated 137 miles from London, and consists, according to the late population act, of 777 houses, and 3,651 inhabitants.

About four miles north-eastward from Leominster is Berrington, formerly the seat and manor of the late Right. Hon. Thomas Harley, brother to the late Earl of Oxford, who was member for this county in five succeeding parliaments; it is occupied by Lady Rodney. The mansion is a square modern edifice, of white stone, situated in a pleasant park, the eminence to the south-east being covered with fine wood. On the north-east, near the angle of the roads leading to Eye and Brimpfield, is the site of a small camp.

At the distance of one mile to the south-east from Leominster, on the left of our road, is Eaton, formerly a seat of the Hackluyts, of whom Walter de Hackluyt was high sheriff of this county during the four first years of Edward II. and the same office was also filled by several others of the same family down to the time of Henry VIII. "The chief and ancientest of the Hackluyts, (says Leland) have been gentlemen in tymes out of memory; they took their names of the forest of Cluid in Radnorshire, and they

had a castle and habitation not far from Radnor." William Hackluyt, says the same author, was at the battle of Agincourt, and afterwards "set up a house" in this township: this mansion is now in ruins, and the chapel belonging to it is converted into an hop-kiln. In February 1800, a female, named Margaret Mapps, died at Eaton, at the great age of 110.

About two miles south-westward from Leominster, and one and a half to the right of our road, is Ivington camp, a strong fortification, divided into two parts by a more modern entrenchment than the outer works. This camp is supposed to have been occupied by Owen Glendour, on his retreat before the army of Prince Henry. In ploughing the interior parts, several coins, of the dates 1340 and 1390, have been found here of late years.

Returning to our road, at the distance of four miles from Leominster, we pass through the village of HOPE, in the church of which, consisting of a nave and chancel, built by the Coningsbies of Hampton Court, is a fine marble monument, erected to the late Earl Coningsby, whose remains, with those of Margaret his countess, and an infant son, are deposited in a vault under the chancel; also the remains of the Lady Philippa Coningsby, and others of the family. In a curious manuscript account of the funeral procession of the latter lady, after reciting every particular relating to her funeral, is the following singular conclusion: "And then, the next morning hunting, hawking, and good cheer, and so to continue two or three days; and such is the end of all flesh."

A short distance to the south-east of Hope is Hampton court, formerly the principal seat of George Capel Coningsby, Earl of Essex, but lately the property of Mr. Arkwright. This mansion was built under the immediate auspices of Henry IV. by his favourite Sir Rowland Lenthall, who, "being (says Leland) a gallant fellow, either a daughter, or very near kinswoman of the king's fell in love with him,

and in continuance was wedded unto him; whereupon after he rose into estimation, and had given to him 1000*l.* by the year, for the maintenance of him and his wife, and their heirs, among which landes he had Ludlowe for one parte. This Lenthall was victorious at the battle of Agincourt, and tooke many prisoners there, by which prey he beganne the new buildings of Hampton Court, and brought from an hill a springe of water, and made a little pool within the top of his house." The lady above alluded to appears to have been a co-heiress of Richard Fitz-Allen, Earl of Arundel. In what manner the estate descended is not clearly recorded, but Camden mentions it as having been "for some time possessed by the Coningsbies, a famous family in these parts;" and who purchased it of the Cornewells, Barons of Burford.

The mansion, which is situated on a spacious lawn, of nearly one hundred acres, is a magnificent structure, partaking partly of the castellated and partly of the monastic character. The buildings surround a quadrangular court, having a grand square entrance-tower in the centre of the north front; and at each extremity another and smaller tower, the most eastern of which unites with the chapel. The entrance-tower is deeply embattled, and machicolated on both its faces.

The interior is commodious, and many of the apartments are fitted up with great taste, and a few years since was remarkable for much of the ancient furniture that constituted the magnificence of the nobility two centuries ago. In one of the rooms, called King Henry's, was till lately a bed, the hangings of which were said to be those belonging to the bed the king slept on, and were a very fine Scotch plaid, and another of the apartments, which is furnished in a splendid manner, having crimson damask hangings, and bed and canopy of the same, remains precisely in the same state as when used by William III. when he visited Thomas Baron Coningsby, a noble-

man particularly distinguished for his bravery at the battles of the Boyne and Agrim in Ireland. Above the present ceiling of the great hall is a wainscot roof, done in pannels, on which are carved roses and other decorations, which have been richly gilt and ornamented; at the lower end is likewise to be seen a coat of arms, painted on the wall, said to be the arms of King Henry IV. but much defaced.

Among the valuable paintings, preserved in this mansion, are some interesting pieces by C. Jansen, Holbein, Vandyck, Lely, Kneller, and Reynolds. One of the most famous among the old pictures is said, by Walpole, to be an undoubted original of Henry IV. Depending from the neck is a chain and medallion, on which are depicted the arms of the Fitz-Allens, Earls of Arundel; and beneath is the following inscription: "Henry IV. King of England, who laid the first stone of this house, and left this picture in it, when he gave it to Lenthall, who sold it to Cornewall of Burford, who sold it to the ancestors of the Lord Coningesby, in the reign of Henry VI." There is likewise to be seen here a gun, which the late Lord Coningsby had made of sword blades, taken from the Irish rebels at the battle of the Boyne, on the barrel of which is the following inscription, in gold letters:

"I in the tower, became a gun,  
In seventeen hundred twenty-one;  
Earl Coningesby, a prisoner there  
Bespoke and took me to his care;  
And fit I am for loyal lords,  
Made of the blades of rebels' swords.  
Traitors, beware, when I'm enlarg'd  
When he or I shall be discharg'd.  
For this, my first and true report,  
Pray use me well at Hampton Court."

The battle of the Boyne was fought in the year 1690, between King William and James II. and in the library of Hampton Court is an ebony casket, upon the lid of which are miniatures of William III.



and Lord Coningsby, copied with much taste, from large pictures, by the present Lady Essex; in this box is the handkerchief applied by Lord Coningsby to a wound which King William received on his right shoulder, from a field-piece, as he was reconnoitering the situation of the enemy the day previous to the battle.

The chapel of Hampton Court still retains traces of its pristine appearance; the roof is of timber-work, and displays several carved ornaments, peculiar to the pointed style, and has various whimsical figures dispersed over it. Several of the windows contain painted glass, in various stages of decay; the arms, however, of Lenthall and others, are yet entire.

The scenery around this mansion is in a high degree picturesque and beautiful. About a quarter of a mile to the south-west flows the river Lugg, which at some distance below the house is joined by a beautiful little stream, that rises in the hills, about Leckley Heath, and meanders through the park in a south-westerly direction. Near the house is a good shrubbery, intersected by a pleasant walk, and at some distance is a neat residence for the steward. The park, which is entered by a very handsome lodge in the rustic style, is between seven and eight miles in circumference, and contains some fine timber, with about 1200 head of deer. In the park, during the floods, which frequently occur here in a rainy season, a fine cascade is formed by the rushing of the waters over a mass of broken rock.

To the north of Hampton Court, on an eminence, are the vestiges of a large camp, forming one of a continued chain, crossing this county in a north-east direction.

To the south-west of Hampton Court, and on the right of our road, is Dynmore Hill, a very considerable eminence, commanding some extensive prospects over the surrounding country. "The hill of *Dinesmore* (says Leland) is very steep, high, and well



wooded, and a *specula* to see all the country about. Ther stondeth a little by west of the very toppé on the left hand, as I rode, a commandry (preceptory), with a fair place that belonged to the Knights of St. John of Hierusalem in London." To whom, as appears from Tanner, it had been given by a brother of the order, in the time of Henry II. The lands of this foundation afterwards became part of the estate of Earl Coningshy, and are still, we believe, the property of his descendant, the Earl of Essex.

Returning to our road, at the distance of five miles from Hope, we pass through the village of WELLINGTON, about one mile to the south-east of which is SUTTON WALLS, celebrated as the site of the palace of Offa, king of the Mercians, where, as before-mentioned, the unsuspecting Ethelbert was treacherously murdered,

———" When to th' unhallow'd feast  
Of Mercian Offa he invited came,  
To treat of spousals."

PHILLIPS,

Sutton Walls comprehends a spacious encampment on the summit of a hill, surrounded by a single rampart, having entrances on the north and south sides. The area, which includes about 30 acres, is nearly level, excepting towards the centre, where there is a low place, called Offa's Cellar, near which, in digging some years ago, a silver ring, of an antique form, was found.

Sutton is included in the extensive manor of Marden, which was an ancient demesne belonging to the crown, but given by King Offa to the canons of Hereford, then termed the presbytery of Marden, in expiation of the murder of Ethelbert.

At the distance of about eight miles from Wellington, after passing through the villages of Morton and Holmer, we arrive at Hereford, about six miles from which, on the right of our road, is MYND PARK, the seat of T. H. Symons, esq. The mansion, which is situated under the west side of Sad-

dlebow Hill, is a large plain structure of brick; and the grounds afford some rich and well-wooded scenery.

About three miles to the south-east of MYND PARK, in our road, is the village of ST. WEONARD'S, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to the British saint of that name, whose figure, represented as an old man sustaining a book, and an ox, was formerly in the north chancel window. Several of the ancient family of the Minors, who came over with the Conqueror, and were seated at Triago, in this parish, lie buried here.

At the distance of four miles beyond St. Weonard's, we arrive at the village of Welsh Newton, about one mile to the north-west of which was PEMBRIDGE CASTLE, which is mentioned as early as the seventh of Henry III. when William Lord Cantilupe was its governor. The castle is now totally demolished, together with an adjoining chapel, and the park has been ploughed up and cultivated.

About two miles to the south-east of Welsh Newton, are two eminences, called Great and Little Doward Hills, on the former of which are the remains of an ancient encampment, styled *King Arthur's Hall*; from which the ground gently declines to the river. On the summit of the latter, which is situated a short distance to the west, are also the vestiges of an ancient camp, near which, according to Gibson's Camden, broad arrow heads have been found: and in a place which appeared to have been arched over, an almost entire human skeleton was discovered, "whose joints were pretended (says Mr. Gough) to be twice the length of those of the present race."

Between the Doward Hills and Symond's Yate, or Rock, situated a little to the south, is the cascade of the New Weir, which has been selected as one of the most beautiful and majestic scenes upon the Wye, as it gains superior advantages from accidental accompaniments. Of this spot, Mr. Whateley, in his *Observations on Modern Gardening*, says, "A

scene at the New Weir, on the Wye, which in itself is truly great and awful, so far from being disturbed, becomes more interesting and important, by the business to which it is destined. It is a chasm between two high ranges of hill that rise almost perpendicularly from the water; the rocks on the sides are mostly heavy masses, and their colour is generally brown; but here and there a pale craggy shape starts up to a vast height above the rest, unconnected, broken, and bare; large trees frequently force out their way among them: and many of them stand far back in the covert, where their natural dusky hue is deepened by the shadow that overhangs them. The river too as it retires, loses itself in woods, which close immediately above, then rise thick and high, and darken the water. In the midst of all this gloom, is an *Iron Forge*, covered with a black cloud of smoke, and surrounded with half-burnt ore, with coal, and with cinders; the fuel for it is brought down a path, worn into steps narrow and steep, and winding among precipices: and near it is an open space of barren moor, about which are scattered the huts of the workmen. It stands close to the cascade of the Weir, where the agitation of the current is increased by large fragments of rocks, which have been swept down by floods, from the banks, or shivered by tempests from the brow; and the sullen sound at stated intervals, of the strokes from the great hammer in the forge, deadens the roar of the water-fall. Just below it, while the rapidity of the stream still continues, a ferry is carried across it; and lower down, the fishermen use little round boats, called truckles (coracles) the remains, perhaps, of the ancient British navigation, which the least motion will overset, and the slightest touch may destroy. All the employments of the people seem to require either exertion or caution; and the ideas of force or of danger which attend them, give to the scene an animation unknown to the solitary,

though perfectly compatible with the wildest romantic situation."

*Journey from Upper Sapey to Alterines; through Bromyard and Hereford.*

The village of Upper Sapey is situated at the north-east extremity of the county on the borders of Worcestershire; about six miles to the south-west of which is BROMYARD, a small market-town, irregularly built, and badly paved; and nearly half the buildings are of wood, and very small; those of modern construction are however of red brick. The church, which stands on the north-east side of the town, is of Saxon origin, the south door-way having the zig-zag ornaments; above which is a cross, and the figure of St. Peter in relief. This structure has lately undergone a thorough repair, the pillars of the nave having been heightened to support a new roof, the original capitals are however preserved. In the north transept is an altar tomb, to the memory of a knight of the Baskerville family, whose effigy is sculptured on the slab; and at the east end is a tomb in memory of Phineas Jackson, vicar of Bromyard, who died in the year 1681, having made various small bequests for charitable purposes in this town and neighbourhood.

This town, which is 125 miles from London, and contains, according to the late returns, 371 houses, and 2769 inhabitants, is delightfully situated in the midst of the finest orchards, and the river Frome passing within a short distance to the east, and several small streams flowing on the north and west sides.

About four miles to the north of Bromyard is a Roman Camp, situated on the summit of Wall Hill, on the north-east side of which is the extensive manor of Netherwood, which was part of the estate of the Mortimers, of whom Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, was a native of this place. It is now the property of John Pytts, Esq. The mansion is re-

corded to have been a noble structure, and to have been surrounded by a park of nearly 1000 acres. In the former was born the great but unfortunate Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, Queen Elizabeth's favourite and victim. This nobleman, who was the son of Walter, Earl of Essex, and Viscount Hereford, was educated at Cambridge, and succeeded his guardian the great Lord Burleigh, in the chancellorship of that university. In the year 1585, he accompanied the Earl of Leicester, who had married his mother, to Holland, where he obtained the rank of general, and was greatly distinguished at the battle of Zutphen. On his return to England he was introduced at court, and rose very rapidly in the estimation of the Queen; whose affections he might probably have retained, if his high spirit could have submitted to her caprices. During his short-lived prosperity, he was entrusted with various important commands, in all of which he displayed great abilities and valour; but frank and ingenuous in his nature, he wanted art to discover and to counteract the base dissimulation of his enemies, who, envious of his high fortune, stimulated him to those fatal extremities, to which the warmth of his natural temper too violently hurried him, and which proved his ruin; for "he seemed (says Granger) to think it a prostitution of his dignity to put up with an affront from the Queen herself: and was as honest and open in his enmity, as he was sincere in his friendship." He was beheaded on Tower Hill, in the year 1600, in the 34th year of his age.

At Pencomb, a village situated about three miles to the west of Bromyard, the lord of the manor claims a pair of gilt spurs, as an heriot, from the estate of every mayor of Hereford who dies in his mayoralty.

The roads from Bromyard southerly are very indifferent, the county is however exceedingly beautiful, being variegated with woody eminences, fine orchards, rich meadows, and flourishing corn-fields.



The villages in this part of the county are very inconsiderable, mostly consisting of a few scattered houses, adjacent to a small church.

At the distance of about 14 miles, after passing through the village of Stoke Lacy, and over the river Lugg, we arrive at Hereford, two miles to the south-east of which, on the banks of the Wye, is Rotheras, the seat of Charles Bodenham, Esq. whose ancestors have made it their chief residence, during three centuries. The mansion, which is a spacious and handsome edifice, was built by the grandfather of the present possessor. Near it is a decayed chapel, and extensive offices, which belonged to the ancient manor house. The grounds are pleasant, and the adjacent woods contain some fine timber. On the south-west the prospect is terminated by an eminence called Dynedor Hill, on which are the vestiges of an ancient camp, which is traditionally said to have been occupied by the Roman General Ostorius Scapula. The views from this eminence are extremely fine, and the hill itself is cultivated to the extreme verge of the entrenchment, the bank of which is covered with underwood; the inclosed area is a large corn field, and several cottages are scattered at the sides.

On the left of our road, at the distance of one mile from Hereford, is Belmont, the seat of Colonel Matthews. The house is pleasantly situated on a fine ascent, close to the banks of the Wye, and commands a beautiful prospect; it is an elegant building of Bath stone, erected between the years 1788 and 1790, from the designs of Mr. Wyatt; the interior is fitted up with much taste, and contains some valuable pictures.

At the distance of eight miles from Hereford, on the left of our road, is the village of KILPECK, where was an ancient castle, and cell of Benedictines; the former was the seat of the noble family of Kilpeck, who obtained it by marriage with an heiress of the Waleranes, who resided here in the time of Edward



the First. "The castle of Kilpec (says Leland) now longeth to the Erle of Ormond; sum ruins of the walles yet stand. The priory stood from the castle a quarter of a mile." This priory was subordinate to St. Peter's at Gloucester, to which it had been given by Hugh Fitz-William, an ancestor of Lord Kilpec, "it was suppressed in Thomas Spofford, bishop of Hereford's time, and clearly united to Gloucester."

Three miles to the south-west of Kilpeck, in our road, is the village of KENDERCHURCH; about two miles to the south-east of which, on the borders of Monmouthshire, is Kentchurch Park, the seat of J. L. Scudamore, Esq. The house is pleasantly situated in a park, between three or four miles in circumference, and containing some fine timber.

About one mile to the north-west of Kenderchurch, is the village of EWIAS HAROLD, where was formerly an ancient castle, which was founded previously to the Conquest, though Dugdale says that it was built by William Fitz-Osborne, earl of Hereford, after the Conquest. Leland, however, observes, "the fame goeth that Kynge Harold had a basterd namyed Harold, and of this Harold part of Ewis was named *Ewis Harold*—The fame is, that the castell of Map-Herald was builded of Harold afore he was kynge; and when he overcam the *Walsche* men, Harold gave this castle to his bastard." Here was likewise a priory or cell of Black Monks, which (says Leland) "was translatyd from Dulesse (Dewlas) village, a myle and upper on the broke. Dules village longed to Harold. *Filius Harald*i foundyd this at Dules: Robertus Tregoz translated it from Dules to Mapheralt: it was a cell to Gloucester:" to which place the monks were finally removed in the year 1338, and their possessions united to those of St. Peter's Abbey, their church having been given to this abbey early in the 12th century.

One mile to the north of Ewias Harold, at the village of Dore, was an abbey of white monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary: it was built by Robert de

Ewias, youngest son to Harold, lord of Ewias; at the time of its suppression it consisted of an abbot and eight religious, and was valued at 101*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* per annum. Soon after this, the chapter-house, cloisters, and other buildings of the abbey, were pulled down, and the materials sold, together with part of the church; enough, however, of the latter is still left to shew that it was built in the cathedral form, and that its architecture was very elegant. During the reign of Charles I. John Viscount Scudamore obtained a license to rebuild this fabric, and though it was not entirely rebuilt, it underwent considerable repairs; and in the year 1634 was re-consecrated by Theophilus Field, bishop of St. David's.

This church consists of a nave, chancel, and transept, with a well-proportioned and massive tower; the transept was completely new-roofed by Lord Scudamore, whose arms, together with those of England, and of the see of Hereford, are finely carved on the screen which divides the chancel from the nave; the former of which is spacious, and has a magnificent appearance, its length being 84 feet, its breadth 32, and its height 45. The communion table, which rests upon three elegant pillars, is a large slab, 12 feet long, and four broad: the altarpiece displays a singular representation, in wood, of the heart, hands, and feet of our Saviour pierced and bleeding. Above the altar are three beautiful windows of painted glass: in the centre window Jesus is depicted ascending into heaven; above him is Moses, and St. John the Baptist; and beneath the eleven Apostles. In the other windows are full-length figures of the Evangelists, and of St. Peter, St. Andrew, St. James, and of St. John, with appropriate legends. Behind the altar is a kind of chapel, denominated a double cloister, the roof of which is supported by well-proportioned pillars of good workmanship; here, beneath an arch, is a mutilated figure carved in free-stone, which is said to

be the effigies of Robert de Ewias, the founder of this abbey, who is recorded to have been buried here, together with Robert, his son, and several others of his family. The abbey lands are now the property of the duke of Norfolk, who obtained them by his marriage with the heiress of the lords of Scudamore.

The parish of Dore contains about 5000 acres. The buildings are chiefly farm-houses and cottages, built of timber, with mud walls, and lying scattered on the hills and in the valleys; the land being extremely diversified and broken.

At Longtowne, a secluded village, situated about three miles to the west of Dore, near the junction of the upper branches of the Munnow, are some inconsiderable remains of a castle, and to the eastward is an eminence, called Money Farthing Hill; probably from coins having been found here.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about five miles from Kenderchurch, after passing through the villages of Pontrilas and Rowleston, we arrive at Altyrinys, an ancient mansion belonging to, and long the seats of the Cecils, from whom descended the Lord Burghley. The house is situated in a valley near the junction of the Houdy with the Munnow, on the borders of Monmouthshire.

About one mile to the south of Altyrinys, is Trewyn House, the pleasant seat of — Rosier, Esq. near which, on the brow of a precipice of the Black Mountains, are vestiges on an ancient encampment, of an oblong rectangular form, the area of which measures about 160 yards by 80 yards. Beyond the bank, on one side, is another entrenchment, still more extensive, of a semicircular figure, and defended by a double ditch and rampart. The former Mr. Coxe supposes to be of Roman origin, and the latter to have been annexed by the Britons or Saxons. The situation, he remarks, was excellent, “as well for an exploratory camp, as for the defence of the road, which ran near the foot of the eminence.”

The roads in this district, and indeed in all this part of the country, are excessively rugged and bad.

*Journey from Kington to Little London; through Hereford and Ledbury.*

KINGTON is a small market-town, situated on the Arrow, at the north-western extremity of the county, near the borders of Radnorshire. The town is well built, and has an Iron Foundry, established by Mr. Meredith, which is supplied with Coal and Pig Iron, by the 'Tram road, from Brecon. The church is a very irregular structure, having a detached tower, surrounded by a spire of a singular form. At the entrance of the town is a free grammar school, erected and endowed by Lady Watkins; here is likewise a charity school. It has a market on Wednesday, and fairs on the Wednesday before Easter; Whit-Monday; August 2; and September 4. Kington is situated 155 miles from London, and contained, according to the late returns, 505 houses, and 2813 inhabitants.

About one mile to the north of Kington, on the summit of Bradnor Mountain, are the remains of a square camp, and at Huntingdon, a village about three miles to the north-west of Kington, are the ruins of a castle, which gave name to the hundred in which it stood. This castle "longed (says Leland) to the Duke of Bokingham."

At the distance of three miles from Kington, we pass through the village of Lionshall. Here are the ruins of castle, of which scarcely any thing now remains but fragments of the outer walls.

On leaving Lionshall, we proceed in a south-easterly direction, and at the distance of four miles arrive at WEOBLEY, an ancient market-town, situated 147 miles from London, and consists of 159 houses, and 739 inhabitants. Many of the houses are well-built modern structures, the town having suffered greatly by fire some few years back, and it contains several old wooden houses, worthy the attention of the Antiquary. The church is spacious

and strongly built, and has two or three ancient burial chapels. The celebrated Col. Birch is buried here, and near Weobly is the castellated Mansion of his descendant S. Peploe Esq. On the south side of the town formerly stood an ancient castle, which was taken from the Empress Maud by King Stephen; it is mentioned by Leland as being a goodly and fine building, but somewhat in decay; the site is now converted into a bowling-green. The town is governed by two constables; it returns two members to parliament, who are chosen by the inhabitants of houses of 20*l.* per annum rent and upwards, paying scot and lot, and resident therein 40 days before the election. Here are two good charity schools, the one for boys and the other for girls; its market is on Thursday, and fairs on Holy Thursday, and the third Thursday after.

Three miles beyond Weobley is the village of Wormsley, where a priory of Augustine canons, of the order of St. Victor, was founded by Gilbert Talbot, in the time of King John, and dedicated to St. Leonard de Pionia, and whose revenues at the period of the dissolution were valued at 83*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* per annum.

About eight miles from Wormsley is the city of Hereford, four miles beyond which, on the right of our road, is Longworth, the seat of R. P. Phillipps, Esq. The mansion, which was built a few years ago, is fitted up with much elegance.

About one mile to the east of the last-mentioned place, on the summit of a commanding eminence, on the right of our road, is St. Ethelbert's Camp, which is traditionally said to be the spot where Ethelbert pitched his tents when on his journey to the court of King Offa.

On the south-west side of the same eminence is Suston Court, the seat of James Hereford, Esq. who has within these few years erected a handsome mansion of Bath stone, a short distance from the ancient residence, which is yet standing, though somewhat



ruinous ; and together with the old furniture is preserved with care.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about seven miles from Hereford, is the village of Stoke Edith, which derives the latter part of its name from the dedication of the church to St. Editha, daughter of King Egbert. At this place is the principal seat of Edward J. Foley, Esq. The mansion, which is a spacious brick building with wings, stands in a very pleasant park, on a kind of terrace. In the hall are some fine paintings by Sir James Thornhill ; and in the other apartments, which are fitted up with great taste, is a good collection of family portraits. The park and grounds, which have been considerably improved, are well wooded, and display some fine scenery.

At the distance of about eight miles from Stoke Edith, after passing through the village of Tarrington, we arrive at LEBURY, an ancient well built market town, situated on a declivity near the south end of the Malvern Hills, about one mile west from the river Leddon, from which it derives its name. It chiefly consists of two streets, which cross each other at right angles. In the principal street is the old market-house, which is raised on strong oak pillars, and composed of timber and lath plastered and white-washed ; the beams being coloured black. This method of building predominates in the more ancient parts of the town ; and many of the houses have projecting stories : the modern houses are chiefly of red brick.

The Church is a large edifice of Saxon origin, though it has undergone many alterations and improvements at different times. It consists of a nave, side aisles, and chancel, a chapel, and a detached tower ; which is terminated by a finely-proportioned spire, about 60 feet high. The nave has octagon pillars, with pointed arches ; and was divided from the chancel by a very beautiful carved screen, half of which has however been removed. The chancel



appears to have formed part of the original building, having several short massive columns, with semicircular arches. On the north side is a square chapel, having five pointed windows, which have been decorated with painted glass, as well as others in different parts of the church; but the whole is now reduced to confused fragments. This chapel is dedicated to St. Katherine, a female of the name of Katherine Audley, "a religious woman in the reign of Edward II. who had a maid called Mabel, but not being fixed in any settled place, she had a revelation that she should not set up her rest till she came to a town where the bells should ring of themselves. She and her maid coming near Ledbury, heard the bells ring, though the church doors were shut, and no ringers there. Here then she determined to spend the remainder of her days, and built an hermitage, living on herbs, and sometimes on milk. The king, in consideration of her birth or piety, or both, granted her an annuity of 30*l*. Rex præcepit vicecomiti Hereford quod omnes terras et tenementa que fuerunt Petri de Limesey in Monyton et Dilew caperentur in manum regis, et quod de exitibus eorundem solveret annuatim Catisinæ de Audley reclusæ de Ledbury 30 li. (*Gough's Camden.*)

Besides the other appendages of Romish superstition in this county, it was an old custom at funerals to hire poor people who were to take upon them the sins of the party deceased. One of them (he was a long lean ugly lamentable poor rascal) lived in a cottage, on Ross highway. The manner was that, when the corps was brought out of the house and laid on the bier, a loaf of bread was brought out and delivered to the *Sin eater* over the corps, as also a mazar bowle of maple full of beer (which he was to drink up) and sixpence in money in consideration of which he took upon him *ipso facto* all the sins of the defunct, and freed him or her from walking after they were dead. This was practised in some parts of the county long after the reformation, and even

under the presbyterian government in the interregnum.

Among the numerous sepulchral memorials in this church, is an inscription in memory of Anne, wife of Ambroze Elton, Esq. of the Hazel, who died in the year 1660, having had 17 children, three sons and 14 daughters, of whom she lived to see 11 married; and of their issue more than 120 persons.— Here is likewise an inscription recording the interment of James Bailey, of this town, who died in the year 1674, “aged 100 years and eight months. He was younger brother to Humphry Bailey, of Ocul Pycnard, and of Samuel Bailey, late of Hereford. These three brothers lived to the age of 300 years; what one wanted the other made up. *Mors rapit omnia.*” There are also some fine monuments of the Biddulph family in this church.

About the year 1401, this church was made collegiate by Bishop Trevenant, who established here a master or deacon, and eight secular priests, besides clerks and other servants: this college was dissolved in the first of Edward VI.: the deacon's lodgings, which were situated on the north side of the Church, are now converted into a school-house.

Near the Market-house is an Hospital, in honour of St. Catharine; it is a very ancient timber and plaister building, and was founded by Bishop Foliot, in the year 1232, for six single men, two men and their wives, and two widows. At the Dissolution its annual revenues were valued at 32l. 7s. 11d.; it was re-founded by Queen Elizabeth, for a master, seven poor widowers, and three poor women, each to be allowed 6l. 13s. 4d. a year, besides clothes and firing; this allowance has since been augmented to five shillings weekly.

Here is a good Free-school, which was established before the Reformation, and is partly supported by rents issuing from dissolved chantry lands; there is likewise a Charity-school, besides several alms-houses,

and numerous benefactions have been made for the use of the poor.

Ledbury had once the privilege of sending two members to parliament, but afterwards surrendered its rights, on the plea of inability to support them. This town formerly belonged to the see of Hereford, to which it was given by Edwin, a powerful Saxon, who imagined himself cured of the palsy by St. Ethelbert's prayers. Bishop Bohun procured the charter of a market for this town, to be held on Saturdays, which was by a later charter changed to Tuesday.

The town of Ledbury is situated 120 miles from London, and consists, according to the late returns, of 636 houses, and 3476 inhabitants. Ropes, lines, and sacks for meal are made here. Great quantities of cider are also manufactured in the neighbourhood, which constitutes a considerable article of trade: the clothing trade was at one time very flourishing in this town, but it has greatly declined of late years.

On an eminence, two miles to the north of Ledbury, is Hope End, a small but pleasant seat, belonging to E. M. Barrett, Esq.; about one mile to the south-east of which, on the summit of one of the highest ridges of the Malvern Hills, on the borders of Worcestershire, are the immense works, called the Herefordshire Beacon, formerly one of the strongest and most important hill fortresses in this island. "The vast labour (says a modern writer) employed in its construction, its amazing belts of ramparts and trenches, its great extent, its well-chosen situation, which commands what was anciently the only pass through the Malvern hills, and which indeed is very nearly so even to the present hour; its singular irregularity of form and evident dissimilitude to the modes of fortification observed by the Danes, Saxons, and Romans, all combine to establish its origin, which must unquestionably be ascribed to the Britons. The same

reasons also evince, that it was not constructed for mere temporary purposes, but rather for permanent security; as a place wherein an entire district might seek refuge, with all their possessions, whether of flocks or herds, in case of invasion, or any other sudden emergency.

“ It is almost impossible for words to convey a complete idea of this immense strong hold; the works are too vast, the heights too unequal, and the base of the eminence too extensive. The general shape of the hill, at least of that portion occupied by the works, approaches to an ellipsis; and the disposition of the banks and ditches correspond with that figure. The area of the centre, and highest part, is an irregular parallelogram, measuring about sixty yards in its longest diameter, and nearly forty in its shortest: this is surrounded by a high and steep rampart of stones and earth, now covered with turf; and that again defended by a very deep ditch. Considerably below this, on the acclivity of the hill, ranging towards the south-west, or rather south west by south, is a very extensive outwork, or bastion, of an oval form, containing a sufficient area for the stowage, and even pasturage, of horses and cattle. This is connected by means of a narrow slip of land, running beneath the south-east side of the upper ditch, with a similar kind of bastion, or outwork, ranging eastward and manifestly intended for similar purposes. Both these works are surrounded by a high rampart and deep ditch; and the inclosed areas have evidently been levelled by art as far as the natural shape of the eminence would admit. Still lower on the acclivity, are successive ranges of ramparts and ditches, very steep, deep, and high, encircling the sides of the mountain, and rendering it nearly, if not utterly, inaccessible.

“ The views from the summit of this majestic work include a vast extent of country, and Herefordshire, from this height, assumes a very distinct character to that of the contiguous districts of Worcester and

Gloucester. It appears to be composed of an immense continuation of oblong, conical, and irregular hills, principally covered with fine timber; the deep shadows of whose luxuriant foliage project over the most beautiful vales, abounding with orchards, corn-fields, and hop-grounds. The distance in the west is finely marked by the range of the Black Mountains, and the hills of Radnorshire. The prospects to the east and south-east are yet more extensive, including a very large proportion of Gloucestershire and Worcestershire, which appear spread out before the sight, variegated by all the charms of nature and cultivation. The Herefordshire Beacon itself is most eminently conspicuous for many miles round, and forms an object of uncommon grandeur."

About two miles to the south-east of Ledbury, is the pleasant village of EASTNOR, in the church of which are several handsome monuments of statuary marble, to the memory of several individuals of the Cocks family; and a little to the south-east of the village is Castnor Castle, lately erected by Earl Somers. It is a noble building, upon the plan of the baronial castles of former days, is in a fine commanding situation, and has an imposing appearance, from whatever points it may be viewed.

In a glen of the Malvern Hills, about two miles east from the last-mentioned place, stood Bransill Castle, which was originally of a square form, having a round tower at each angle, and a double moat surrounding it. This castle is now wholly demolished; but from its site it appears to have been a place of great strength.

At the distance of about two miles to the south of Ledbury, on the right of our road, is an ancient camp, called the Vineyard Camp, the works of which are almost entirely effaced by the plough; one mile beyond Vineyard Camp is the small village of Little London.

About five miles to the west of which, a marvel-



lous occurrence is said to have taken place in the time of Queen Elizabeth, when, according to Camden, Marcley Hill, in the year 1575, rose as it were from sleep, and for three days moved on its vast body with a horrible noise, driving every thing before it to a higher ground, to the great astonishment of the beholders, by that kind of earthquake, I suppose, which naturalists call *Brasmatia*. Sir Richard Baker, in his *Chronicle of England*, has given the following particulars of this event.—“In the 13th year of Queen Elizabeth, a prodigious earthquake happened in the east parts of Herefordshire, at a little town called Kinnaston. On the 17th of February, at six o'clock in the evening, the earth began to open, and a hill, with a rock under it, making at first a great bellowing noise, which was heard a great way off, lifted itself up, and began to travel, bearing along with it the trees that grew upon it, the sheep folds and flocks of sheep, abiding there at the same time. In the place from whence it was first moved, it left a gaping distance, forty foot broad, and fourscore ells long: the whole field was about twenty acres. Passing along, it overthrew a chapel standing in the way, removed a yew-tree planted in the church-yard, from the west to the east; with the like force it thrust before it highways, sheep-folds, hedges and trees; made tilled ground pasture, and again turned pasture into tillage. Having walked in this sort from Saturday evening till Monday noon, it then stood still.” The chapel bell was dug up a few years ago, and the yew-tree is still existing. This supposed phenomenon, according to the present appearance, seems to have been nothing more than a land-slip, and its motion certainly agreeable to the common laws of gravitation.

At the distance of about four miles to the west of Marcley Hill is Holm Lacey, a venerable seat, lately belonging to the Duke of Norfolk; who obtained it in marriage with Frances, daughter and heiress of C. F. Scudamore, esq. together with various other



valuable estates in this county and in Gloucestershire, and it now belongs, with the extensive estate, to the legal heir of the late Duchess. The mansion, which was built about a century ago, remains unaltered, as a perfect specimen of the style of building of our immediate ancestors. The apartments were decorated with many valuable paintings, by Vandyck, Jansen, Holbein, and other artists of eminent merit, and the park and grounds are very pleasant. The old garden, on the south front, was formed on the model of Hampton Court, in Middlesex, and with a very spacious terrace.

*Journey from Hereford to Kington; through  
Stretton.*

On leaving Hereford we proceed in a north-westerly direction, and at the distance of about three miles pass through the village of Stretton, containing 27 houses and 138 inhabitants; one mile and a half beyond which is Credenhill, "of steep ascent, crowned at the top with a vast camp, which takes in its whole apex 40 acres, with works, fortified with an inner as well as outer ditch. It seems to have been British, and strengthened in succeeding ages; or it may have been the defence of Kenchester, and included under one common ancient name with it. It is of too irregular form to be Roman. Here Dr. Salmon places *MAGNIS, Magna Castra*: for such, says he, 30 acres defended, deserves to be called. He takes it to have been first possessed by the Romans, and the innermost ditch, without a vallum; added by the Britons, Saxons, or Danes. He esteemeo this the exploratory camp, and Kenchester the city."

About one mile and a half to the south of Credenhill, on the left of our road, is KENCHESTER, supposed by some writers to have been the ancient city of Ariconium, of greater magnitude than Hereford, and where King Offa had a splendid palace. It is said to have been destroyed by an earthquake.

"Kenchester (says Leland) standith a three mile or more above Hereford, upwards, on the same side

of the river that Hereford doth, yet it is almost a mile from the ripe of Wye. This towne is far more auncient than Hereford, and was celebrated yn the Romans time as apperith by many thinges, and especially by antique money of the Cæsars very often found within the town, and in ploughing about, the which the people there called *Duarfe's-money*. The cumpase of Kenchester hath been by estimation as much as Hereford, excepting the castle, the which at Hereford is very spacious. Pieces of the walls and turrets yet appear, *prope fundamenta*, and more should have appeared if the people of Hereford towne and other thereabout, had not in tyme past pulled down much, and picked out of the best for their buildings. Of late one M. Brainton building a place at Stretton, a mile from Kenchester, did fetch much tayed [hewn] stone there toward his buildings—They told me there that one M. Lingham is owner both of Kenchester and Sutton. By likelihood men of old time went from Kenchester to Hay, and so to Breknok and Cairmardin. The place wher the town was is all overgrown with brambles, hazels, and like shrubs. Nevertheless here and there yet appear ruins of buildings, of the which the foolish people caull on [one] the king of Feyres Chayre. There hath been found *nostra memoria lateres Britannici et ex eisdem canales, aqua ductus, tessellata pavimenta, fragmentum catenula aurea, calculus ex argento*, byside other strawnge things. At Kenchester was a palays of Offa, as sum say: the ruines yet remain, and vaults also. Here hath been and is found a *fossoribus et aratoribus*, Romaine money, tessellata pavimenta, a lytle crosse of gold to were about one's neck, and ther they call them *Dwery* or *Dwerfich* halfpens or money."

The form of the station is an irregular hexagon; the south-west and south sides being the boldest; the present road, under the former, appearing to have been a ditch. The walls may be traced all round the city, though overgrown with hedges and

timber-trees. The ground of the city is higher than the circumjacent country. Nothing remains of its former splendour, except towards the east end, a piece of ruin, which was probably part of a temple, with a niche which is five feet high, and three broad within, built of Roman Brick, rough stones, and indissoluble mortar, and called the Chair: round it are several foundations and holes, as of vaults, and near it are some very large foundations. In the year 1669, a large vault, with a tessellated pavement, and stone floor, was discovered; and some years since a very fine Mosaic floor was found entire; and, about twenty years ago, an aqueduct or drain, of considerable extent, with the bottom entire, was opened here. Great numbers of Roman coins, bricks, leaden pipes, urns, and large bones, have also been formerly dug up, and are still found where the land is ploughed.

At the distance of two miles beyond Eredenhill, we pass through the village of Mansel Lacey, about one mile beyond which, on the right of our road, is **FOXLEY**, the seat of Uvedale Price, Esq. the celebrated author of 'Essays on the Picturesque' The house is a square plain structure of bricks, situated on the declivity of an eminence, and commanding some beautiful views over the vale of Hereford; the distance being formed by various hills retiring in perspective, and the foreground by rich masses of wood. The interior of the house is elegantly fitted up, and decorated with a good collection of paintings by the first masters.

About two miles to the north-west of Foxley, in our road, is the village of Norton, to the north of which is the celebrated eminence, called Lady Lift, from the summit of which the most beautiful prospects burst upon the view with uncommon grandeur and sublimity.

Proceeding north-westerly, at the distance of three miles from Norton, on the right of our road, is the village of **SARNSFIELD**, in the church-yard of which is a tomb-stone to the memory of John Abel, the

celebrated architect who built the market-houses of Hereford, Leominster, Kingston, and Brecknock. He died in the year 1694, in the 97th year of his age. This stone, which was designed and sculptured by himself, displays his own effigies kneeling with those of his two wives, together with the emblems of his profession, the rule, the compass, and the square. On the stone is the following singular epitaph, which was also written by himself :

“This craggy stone a covering is for an architect’s bed,  
That lofty buildings raised high, yet now lies low his  
head;

His line and rule, so death concludes, are locked up  
in store;

Build they who list, or they who wist, for he can  
build no more.

His house of clay could hold no longer;

May heaven’s joy build him a stronger.

JOHN ABEL.

*Vive ut vivas in vitam æternam.”*

At the distance of about 10 miles beyond Norton, after passing through the villages of Wouton, Lions-hall, and Pentress, we arrive at Kingston, about four miles to the south of which is Newport-house and Park, the seat of the Hon. Andrew Foley.

*Journey from Hardwick to Hereford, by Hanmer’s  
Cross,*

HARDWICK is a small village, situated on the western extremity of the county, near the Golden Vale, which extends itself along the river Dore, and derives its name from its pleasant fertility in the spring, when it is covered over with a yellow livery of flowers. It is encompassed with hills, which are crowned with woods.

Among the hills, to the south of the Golden Vale, formerly stood CRASWELL PRIORY, a small house, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and subordinate to the order of Grandmount, in Normandy. It contained a priory and ten monks, who were established here about the end of the reign of King John. At

the Suppression its revenues amounted to 40s. per annum, which were granted by Edward IV. to God's House, now Christ's College, Cambridge.

About four miles to the north-east of Craswell Priory is the site of the demolished castle of SNODHILL, which in Leland's time was "somewhat in ruin." It is mentioned in a record of the time of Henry III. as belonging in the 30th of Edward I. to "Robert, Lord Chandos, who was fourth in descent from one of both his names, who came in with the Conquerer. Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, in the time of Henry VI. held it in right of his wife Anne, who after his death at Barnet Field, settled it on King Henry VII. Queen Elizabeth granted it to Sir Robert Dudley, Knt. of the Garter."—*Gough's Camden*.

Returning from this digression, at the distance of five miles from Hardwick, we pass through the village of BREDWARDINE, where was formerly a castle, but which has long since been destroyed; from the imperfect traces, however, that remain, it appears to have been a strong and massive fortress. This castle gave birth and name to Thomas Bradwardin, archbishop of Canterbury, who for his various and abstruse learning was called in that age the Profound Doctor.

About one mile to the south-east of Bredwardine is Moccas Court, the seat of Col. Sir George Cornwall, Bart. The present mansion is delightfully situated, occupying an easy ascent on the southern bank of the Wye. The Park which ranges to the south-west, is finely wooded, and includes a considerable portion of the neighbouring hill.

On the summit of an eminence, about half a mile to the north-west of Moccas Park, is a large and peculiar kind of cromlech, called King Arthur's tablet, the principal stone of which is incumbent, and broken nearly in the middle; it measures 18 feet in length, and from seven to ten feet broad, its thickness being about two feet. The number of upright



stones that originally supported this slab appears to have been eleven; but several of them are now fallen. Other smaller stones are scattered near the cromlech; and on one side is a small mound or embankment of earth and stones.

At the village of Dorston, situated a short distance to the west of Moccas Park, was formerly an ancient castle, which is now entirely demolished, the origin of which does not appear to be recorded.

At the distance of about four miles from Bredwardine, on our road, are the vestiges of an ancient tract, called the Portway, pointing towards Kenchester, and about one mile beyond the Portway, on the left of our road, is Garnons, the seat of J.G. Cotterell, Esq. the house, which is pleasantly situated on the south-western acclivity of Bishopstone Hill, commands various extensive and rich prospects.

About one mile beyond Garnons, we pass through the village of Bridge-Sollars, three miles to the south of which is MADLEY, formerly the site of a castle, of which there are no remains. There is a small cross, consisting of a square pedestal and shaft, near the centre of the village, and in the church-yard are the remains of another cross. The church is a fine old building, of considerable extent.

Returning to our road, at the distance of two miles from Bridge Sollars, is Sugwas, Pool, where was formerly a palace and chapel belonging to the bishops of Hereford, and the principal residence of Bishop Cantilupe. The palace has been long converted into a farm-house; and the chapel was taken down in the year 1792, and a handsome house erected on the spot. "In a pool in this parish, by the road side, abounding with fine trout, it is pretended Thomas Becket often appears, whence the niche at Kenchester is called *Becket's Chair*."

About half a mile to the south of Sugwas, on the banks of the Wye, is Eaton camp, a large ancient entrenchment, with a single ditch and rampart, in good preservation; the area contains between 30 and 40 acres, and is now cultivated. Four miles beyond



Sugwas Pool, after passing White Cross, we arrive at Hereford.

*Journey from Layster's Hill to Clifford, through Leominster.*

LAYSTER'S HILL is situated at the north-eastern extremity of this county, on the borders of Worcestershire, two miles to the south-west of which is the village of KIMBOLTON, six miles beyond which, after passing through the town of Leominster, we arrive at the village of MONKLAND, which with its church, in the time of William Rufus, was given to the Benedictine monks of the abbey of St. Peter at Castellione, or Canches, in Normandy, to which it became a cell. It was afterwards given to the Carthusians at Coventry. At the distance of about 15 miles from Monkland, after passing through the villages of Great Delwyn, Sarnsfield, Kinnersley, Willersley, Winforton, and Whitney, we arrive at CLIFFORD, a considerable village. At this place are the remains of a castle, which for nearly two centuries was the baronial residence of the Lords de Clifford, and also of fair Rosamond the favourite of Henry II. The ruins, which stand on a bold eminence, rising from the banks of the Wye, consist chiefly of massive fragments of walls, overhanging the steep, near the river side. It is said that the celebrated Rosamond de Clifford, the fair but unfortunate mistress of Henry II. was born in this castle.

At this village Simon Fitz-Richard Fitz-Ponce, in the reign of Henry I. founded a priory of Cluniac monks, subordinate to a monastery at Lewes, a borough town of Sussex. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and continued to the general dissolution, when it was valued at 57*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* per annum.

*Journey from Little Hereford to Byton Lane; through Orleton.*

The village of LITTLE HEREFORD is situated on the banks of the Teme, on the borders of Shropshire, two miles to the south-west of which is the village of

BRIMFIELD, containing 118 houses, and 532 inhabitants. At this place there was a college of secular canons, in the reign of Henry I.; but in the year 1155 they turned Benedictine monks, and resigned their lands to the abbey at Gloucester.

Two miles beyond Brimfield, we pass through the village of ORLETON, containing 110 houses, and 574 inhabitants.

At the distance of about three miles from the last-mentioned place, and one to the right of our road, formerly stood Croft Castle, the ancient seat of the Crofts, a Saxon family of distinction, who resided here as early as the time of Edward the Confessor, and whose descendants continued to make it a place of residence till nearly the conclusion of the last century, when the family became extinct. The estate is now the property of the Rev. Mr. Hevil, who has another seat at Wigmore, called Wigmore Hall, about two miles to the north-west. The ancient castle, which stood in an extensive park, has been long since demolished; at the north-western extremity of the park is the site of a British camp, called Croft Ambrey, the prospect from which is very extensive.

About two miles to the south west of Croft Park, in our road, is the small village of MORTIMER'S CROSS, pleasantly situated in a beautiful valley, watered by the river Lug. Near this place in the year 1461, was fought the famous battle between the two houses of York and Lancaster, the issue of which proved in favour of the Earl of March, afterwards Edward IV. who commanded in person. A little to the south of the village, at an angle of the two roads, a neat Tuscan pedestal of white stone, with an inscription descriptive of this battle, was erected by subscription in the year 1799.

A most singular phenomenon is said to have occurred at the time this battle was fought, of which the following description is given by Speed. "On the verge of this shire, but between Ludlow and

Little Hereford, a great battail was fought by Jasper Earle of Pembroke, and James Butler, Earle of Ormond and Wiltshire, against the Earle of Marche; in which three thousand and eight hundred men were slaine; the two earles fled: but Owen Teuther was taken and beheaded. 'This field was fought upon the daye of the Virgin Mary's Purification, in Anno 1461; wherein before the battail was strok, appeared visably in the firmament *three Sunnes*, which after a while joined all together, and became as before, for which cause, as some have thought, Edward afterwards gave the sun in his full brightness for his badge and cognizance." Other historians have likewise mentioned this appearance; and Drayton in his miseries of Queen Margarite, attributes the victory obtained by the Earl of March to this phenomenon.

At KINGSLAND, a pleasant village about a mile to the south east of Mortimer's Cross, was a castle belonging to King Merwald, of which the ditches and keep were visible in Leland's time.

About two miles beyond Mortimer's Cross, on the left of our road, is SHOBDEN COURT, the seat of William Hanbury, Esq. The house stands in a park between three and four miles in extent, and commands some rich and picturesque scenery. About half a mile beyond Shobden, and two and a half from Mortimer's Cross, is Byton Lane.

*Journey from Aston to Stepleton Castle; through Lenthall.*

ASTON is a small village situated at the north-eastern extremity of the county, about two miles to the north of which is Downton, the seat of Thomas Andrew Knight, Esq. The exterior of this house, from its towers and embattled walls, assumes the appearance of a castle, by which name it is generally called, though it was certainly not designed to imitate a Gothic fortress, but rather the military architecture of the Greeks and Romans. It is situated on an ele-

vated bank, commanding a lawn bounded by the river Teme, and surrounded by an extensive amphitheatre of wood. The house is built with stone, and though consisting of several parts of dissimilar characters, each part is uniform in itself; and the whole from its general union with the contiguous scenery, appears to great advantage. The interior is fitted up with great taste and elegance; and some of the apartments are decorated with a few select paintings by the most eminent masters.

About one mile and a half to the west of Downton, is the village of Lientwardine, containing 1277 inhabitants. In the church of this village are some handsome painted glass windows. Here is a well endowed Free School, founded by Sir Edward Harley, and others.

At the distance of about two miles to the south of Leintwardine, and four from Aston, is the village of WIGMORE, where a college of prebendaries was founded by Ralph de Mortimer, according to whose will a religious house was founded at Shobden by his son Hugh, but for want of water was removed, first to Eye, on the Lugg, afterwards to Wigmore, then to Beodune, and back to Shobden; but in the year 1179 the monks finally settled in a noble monastery about one mile to the north of Wigmore, which was built, endowed, and erected, into an abbey of the order of St. Augustine, at the expense of Hugh de Mortimer; eight of whose descendants were buried in the abbey-church, and among them five Earls of March, all of whose monuments were destroyed at the Dissolution, together with the building itself to the bare walls. The annual revenues of this abbey at the Dissolution were estimated according to Speed at 302*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* In the ruins of the abbey-church were found, about 40 years ago, "a stone coffin and little urn with ashes, with some silver coin in the leaden coffin, which contained a body perfect, but which mouldered on opening.—At the farm below, called the Abbey Grange, remained in Mr. Blount's time some

ancient rooms, as the abbot's council-chamber, a large room with a fair canopy of wainscot, under which the abbot sat, now two rooms for paupers ; a wreathen chain of one of the chimneys had the arms of one of the Mortimers. The buildings are since much altered. Among the out-buildings contiguous to the high road from Lentwardine to Wigmore, is an ale-house, which they say was the abbey prison, now a farm."

A little to the west of the village, on an eminence, are the ruins of Wigmore Castle, which is now almost enveloped by a mantle of rich ivy. The outward wall is the most perfect, though a considerable part even of this is destroyed. The ruins of the keep are situated on a high artificial hill, within the area, and chiefly consist of massive fragments overlooking the country to the north and east, with much grandeur. The time of the original foundation is unknown ; it was, however, certainly previous to the reign of Edward the Elder, who is recorded to have repaired Wigmore. It was taken from Edric, Earl of Shrewsbury, by Ranulph Mortimer, who came over with the Conqueror, and made it his principal seat. "It is impossible (says Mr. Gough) to contemplate the massive ruins of Wigmore Castle, situate on a hill in an amphitheatre of mountains, whence its owner could survey his vast estates from his square palace with four corner towers on a keep, at the south-east corner of his double-trenched outworks, without reflecting on the instability of the grandeur of a family, whose ambition and intrigues made more than one English monarch uneasy on his throne, yet not a memorial remains of their sepulture."

At the distance of four miles beyond Wigmore is the small village of LYNGEN, near the church of which, on a mount, was formerly a castle, belonging to Sir Henry Lingain, who during the civil wars, in the time of Charles I. in whose service great part of his fortune was expended, besieged the castle

of Brampton Brian, and burnt the town, in consequence of which his estate was sequestered to make good the damages; but after an inventory had been taken of his effects, Sir Robert Harley, to whose use the proceeds were ordered to be applied, waited on his widow, and having asked her if it was complete, and she had signed it, presented it to her with all his right thereto. Sir Henry had issue by this lady (who was a daughter of Sir Walter Pye), nineteen children, of whom seven daughters survived, among whom the remains of his estates were afterwards divided.

At Limbrook, a small village, a little to the south of Lyngen, there was formerly a cell, belonging to Aveney, in Normandy; and at a little distance, near the left bank of the Lugg, was a priory of nuns of the order of St. Augustine, founded by some of the Mortimer family, about the reign of Richard I. and which continued till the general suppression, when it had six nuns, and was valued at 22l. 17s. 8d. per annum.

About three miles to the north of Lyngen, is the village of BRAMPTON BRIAN, in the church of which is an altar tomb, green with moss, on which lies the effigy of a lady unknown, greatly mutilated; and above this is a large marble tablet, in memory of Robert Harley, first Earl of Oxford. On the west from the church is a large and respectable brick mansion, belonging to the Harleys, and still farther to the west is a park, nearly six miles in circumference. Great part of the walls of the ancient castle is still standing, and the gate-house, flanked by two round towers, occupies a low situation, a little to the north of the church. A curious chimney, rising like a turret above the curtain, and a staircase, are tolerably perfect. This castle, which had been erected here at an early period, was the chief seat of the Harleys, till the Civil Wars in the reign of Charles I. when it was twice besieged by the forces



in the service of the king, and at length burnt and otherwise dilapidated.

Nearly two miles to the north-east of Brampton Brian, is a perfect Roman camp, called Brandon, supposed to have been the Bravineum of the Romans, and to have been occupied by Ostorius Scapula, previous to his decisive victory over Caractacus. It is of a square form, with a single ditch, near which are two barrows, where, in the year 1662, an urn was found, with ashes and bones in it; and about two miles to the west, on the other side of a small stream, is Coxall-Knoll camp, now covered with large oaks, which have been already noticed in the former part of this volume.

Returning to our road, at the distance of about three miles from Lyngen, we arrive at Stepleton, another ancient border castle, situated on the verge of Radnorshire, and formerly belonging to the Earls of Mortimer, but now the property of the Earl of Oxford.

#### THE SCENERY ON THE WYE.

The rise and course of this celebrated stream has already been traced out in our general description of the rivers and canals of this county; but the scenery on its banks, collected from the various tourists, may be a pleasing addition to that of the county at large.

“Even in its earliest stage, upon the brow of Plinlimmon, this river is marked with features of the grand and sublime. The country for several miles is naked and dreary, one continued undulation of hills forming the distance, the river ‘making sweet music with the enamelled stones.’ At the distance of six miles from its source, at a village called *Cwmergar*, the Wye receives a considerable swell from the river Castal. Here is a wooden bridge called Pont-rhyd-garreg. Hence upon an easy ascent, a tolerable road leads to the wretched village of Llangerrig. The beauties of this situation can only be communicated by the pencil, the power of

language is inadequate. Three miles below Llangerrig, in a south direction, the river Darnel empties itself into the Wye. Pursuing the course of the river, the Nanerth rocks, in an extent of nearly three miles, form a beautiful screen to its north bank. At this spot the Wye takes an easy bend, and the ascending road, girts the immense hills enriched with spreading oaks and underwood. Beneath, the gentle river Marteg loses its current in the broader channel of the Wye. Distant three miles is Rhaiadry Gwy. Three miles further the Wye receives a considerable supply of water from the rivers Elan and Clarwen, which unite at the distance of four miles from their conflux with our river. Below this a copious stream, called the Ither, (which in its course receives the Dulas and Cammaron) makes a considerable addition to the Wye. From the brow of a hill about two miles before we reach the town of Buillt, the scenery is peculiarly beautiful, the river spreading itself into a bay, exhibiting many naked rocks in its bed and agreeable breaks. The river Irfor falls into the Wye about half a mile above the town, receiving at a short distance from its junction, the brook called the Wheffrey, which rises upon the Breconshire hills. Within one mile of the town of Buillt, the small river Dehonog empties itself into the Wye. From the ferry a little below, a beautiful reach of the river terminates in a view of the small remains of Aberdwy Castle, of which no history has been traced. Its remains consist of little more than a stone wall, at the extremity of which are the fragments of two round towers. These rude specimens of art are finely contrasted by the adjoining wonderful productions of nature. There is an immense range of rocks running parallel with the river, exhibiting the most strange and fantastic forms. It presents to the mind the idea of towers and castles rising out of luxuriant copses, and under a declining sun a scene is presented worthy a Salvador, or of his rival John Mortimer. Near this charming

spot, the river Edow falls into our river. In passing on a similar kind of rocky scenery occurs Llangoed, the seat of — Edwards, esq. Hence pass through a wood, the breaks of which allow glimpses of the river, till the village Swains is arrived at, distant one mile, where it takes the form of an extensive bay. At Glasbury the scene may be contrasted with those at Abredwy and Buillt ; all around wearing a placid air ; the river also flowing in a tranquil stream. In the midst of this rich and beautiful valley, an elegant stone bridge of seven arches was thrown across the river, about the year 1783, by the family of Edwards, under the direction of their father, the architect of Pont y-Pridd. In the winter, however, of 1794, the bridge was totally destroyed by a torrent of ice which poured down after the long frost in the beginning of 1795. Approaching Hay, pass its small church, situated upon a high bank of the river. The purple hue of the Black Mountains, generally affords a good back-ground to the scenery around the bridges. These mountains extend 14 or 15 miles towards a place called Monmouth Cap, about eight miles from Abergavenny. On quitting Hay, the Wye receives a considerable body of water from the river Dulas, across which is a stone bridge of one arch. Thus assisted, our river becomes navigable in the winter season. Hence amid a profusion of rich and beautiful scenery, the river quits Radnorshire, at a place called Rhydspence. The winding and mazy course of the Wye, in about two miles brings us to Whitney. Then passing several beautiful villages reach Willersley, in the vicinity of which the extensive range of Merbidge hills affords from their summits, grand and extensive views of the surrounding country. Brobury's Scar, also in this neighbourhood, is another grand object: its principal attractions are the bold and majestic roughness of its form, which contrast beautifully with the views upon the banks of the Wye. Our river glides in an easy course towards Bredwar-

dine. This village stands upon an easy ascent, on the bank of the Wye, and appears in a happy point of view above the bridge; the north side of the river rises considerably, and is richly clothed with shrubbery. This place gave birth and name to the celebrated Thomas Bradwardine, archbishop of Canterbury, who from his deep erudition was called doctor profundus. Passing with the stream along a rich and fertile country, reach Moccas Court, pleasantly situated on the south bank. The ancient name of this place is Moches, which was the property of St. Guthlach, in the city of Hereford. The ancient house stood below the site of the present, which is a modern structure, partly built from the ruin of Bredwardine castle. In descending towards HEREFORD pass a variety of elegant villas, rich in situation, and happily selected: among these, Belmont is peculiarly worthy of attention. Quitting Hereford, the Wye bends its course round a point of land for two miles, when we are again brought almost as near to the town as when we quitted it. In passing further down, the river continues to take circuitous windings, but assumes an even surface. At six miles from Hereford the Wye receives the Lug, which is one of the three principal rivers in this county: it originates on the north-east side of Radnorshire, and running east through Herefordshire to Leominster, takes a south-east direction. About a quarter of a mile distant from the Wye this river runs through the pleasing village of Mordiford, adding much to the picturesque scenery of the place. Upon the east end of the church is represented in plaster, an enormous dragon or serpent. The country people say that some centuries ago a terrible dragon was slain near this place. Nor should we be surprised at the wonderful relations they give respecting it, for even the profound Camden thus writes. "Near the conflux of the Lug and the Wye, east, a hill which they call Marclay hill, did in the year 1575, rouse itself as it were out of sleep, and for three days

together, shoving its prodigious body forward with a horrible roaring noise, and overturning every thing in its way, raised itself (to the great astonishment of the beholders) to a higher place." Upon a hill adjoining the village, a large stone house has been erected by Mr. Hereford, which commands a most extensive view of the surrounding country. About one mile below Mordiford pass a large mansion belonging to the Duke of Norfolk, called Holm-Lacy, formerly the seat of the ancient family of the Scudamores. On this site stood an abbey for premonstratensian canons, founded by Wm. Fitzwain, in the beginning of the reign of Henry the Third. This building commands a beautiful prospect on the opposite side of the river, called Fownhope. A little below the next bend of this river, a range of hills called Capler hills, forms a rich screen to the north bank of the Wye. Near Brookhampton, upon Capler hill, is the remains of a very large square camp, called Woldbury, doubly trenched. Its dimensions are inconsiderable in width, but is near half a mile long. In 1792, three acres of these hills fell into the Wye, and altered its course. On the left at Aramstone, is a fine view of the village of King's Caple, situated amid a beautiful assemblage of woods. Below, upon the opposite bank, is Harewood, the residence of the Hoskinses. This place forms part of the forest of Harewood, in which Ethelwold, king Edgar's minister, had a castle. It was here that Mason fixed the place for his drama of Elfrida, and thus describes the scene before us.

"How nobly does this venerable wood,  
Gilt with the glories of the orient sun,  
Embosom yon fair mansion! the soft air  
Salutes me with most cool and temp'rate breath;  
And as I tread, the flower besprinkled lawn  
Sends up a gale of fragrance. I should guess,  
If e'er content deign'd visit mortal clime,  
This was her place of dearest residence."

Hence, amid a rich and woody country, reach the

pleasant village of Selleck; its church is of singular construction. On the opposite side of the river, below Harewood, is a fine grove of trees called Caple Tump, where an annual festival was wont to be held from all the neighbouring places. About four miles below Selleck occurs a most beautiful and luxuriant view of Ross. On the approach, a fine amphitheatre of trees called Ashwood, skirts the banks of the Wye. The hill to the right of the town is called the Chase, and that on the left Penyard Wood, upon which formerly stood a castle, said to have been destroyed in the civil wars. About one mile below Ross, Wilton Castle first attracts attention, situated upon the margin of the Wye. An assemblage of rich and wooded scenery, forms the leading feature. The key-stones of Wilton Bridge lock curiously one into the other. Near this place a dealer in corn has erected a pleasing residence, which he has skirted with willows. At about two miles below the bridge the admirer of the grand in landscape will be highly gratified after ascending the hill in the high road to Monmouth, whence, at a place called Pencraig, is a very magnificent view. The distant church of Ross, its neighbouring woods and hills, the meandering stream of the Wye, all combine to form the fascinating scene. Amid a variety of enchanting views, which the distance from one bend of the river to another produces, Goodrich Castle, upon the summit of a bold promontory, clothed with wood, presents its aspiring battlements. About one mile below the castle is the remains of Goodrich Priory. From the ascent, approaching the village of Goodrich, a rich and extensive view presents itself across the Forest of Dean, whence Rur-dean church happily breaks upon the eye. Here the Wye in a long and serpentine reach, appears in perspective, affording a pleasing termination to the scenery: its banks are screened on the south by an extensive coppice wood, and on the north by fertile meadows, rising towards Bishop's Wood, from which a considerable iron fur-



nace in this vicinity derives its name. From Liddbrook large quantities of coal are sent to Ross and Hereford. The stone quarries in this neighbourhood supplied materials for building the bridge at Bristol. Passing down the river, the next object which attracts notice is Courtfield, the seat of the Vaughans. The picturesque village of Welsh Bicknor, presents itself in a rich valley on the right bank of the Wye, happily overshadowed by a thicket of woods, ranged in a grand and circular sweep. These are called Hawkwood and Packwood, extending about one mile along the bank of the river. The village church and parsonage-house, group in a form peculiarly beautiful and interesting. In the body of the church, fronting the reading-desk, is a cumbent whole-length female figure well sculptured in a darkish coloured stone. Tradition says it represents the countess of Salisbury, who nursed Henry V. in this neighbourhood. A little below, the Wye is bounded on the opposite shore by a long range of hills clothed with verdure and diversified by a rich and broken soil, of a warm and reddish hue. Approaching the foot of Caldwell rocks, a scene sublime and majestic is presented. The grand prominences are overhung with richly varied tufts of oaks and shrubs, occasionally contrasted and relieved by deep and shadowy dells, formed by the various limekilns on their surface.

Close to the river, beneath the shade of a dark wood near Coldwell, appears a Monumental Stone, to a young man who perished in the river. The inscription informs the passenger that his name was John Whitehead Warre, who was unfortunately drowned near the spot while bathing, even in the sight of his parents, brother, and sisters, on Sept. the 14th, 1804, in the 16th year of his age. It expresses that his parents became resigned to the will of God, under the reflection that he possessed the virtues of truth, innocence, filial piety, and fraternal affection. The monument is professedly erected as a beacon to

warn the unwary, and it contains ideas of deep regret that the means used by the humane society were not known when the accident happened, but that for the benefit of others an apparatus with directions are now lodged in the church of Coldwell. The deceased was born at Oporto, Feb. 14, 1789, son of James Warre, of London and of Somersetshire, merchant. The epitaph is long and badly written. Here Mr. Ireland quitted the barge to ascend these majestic rocks. The task, though arduous, should not, he says, deter the traveller from pursuing this course, as he will avoid a dull and uninteresting passage upon the water of three miles. From the summit, Goodrich Castle breaks suddenly on the eye. The New Wear and adjoining waterfall, with the surrounding heathy hills, afford a rich combination of objects.

The village of Whitechurch in the centre of the vale beneath, with the vast hills beyond, give a termination to the reach of the river. At Whitechurch is a second ferry called Hutson's rope, which, though seven miles distant from that at Goodrich, by water, is only one mile by land. At the bottom of Symond's gate the company usually disembark, mount the summit, and descending on the other side, join the boat at the New Wear. From the top of Symond's Gate, which is not less than 2000 feet in height above the surface of the water, the spectator enjoys a singular view of the numerous mazes of the Wye, and looks down on the river, watering each side of the narrow and precipitous peninsula upon which it stands. Descending to the New Wear by the same kind of rugged course as that by which the Coldwell rocks are attained, the fatigue is amply repaid from an abundance of beautiful views, which appear through the breaks in the rocks or openings of the woods. Mr. Cox did not clamber to this summit, preferring the navigation, because he was unwilling to lose the beauties of the ever-shifting scenery, and a succession of home scenes upon the

banks beneath, to the most boundless expanse of prospect from above. A little below the weir the river scenery is terminated by what is called king Arthur's plain, or Doward-hills. To the emboldened traveller the summits of these hills afford ample variety of the beautiful and sublime.

At a spot adjoining to the wood upon the extremity of this hill is a cavern bearing the name King Arthur's Hall. Many fabulous and wonderful tales have been attached to this hall; the truth is neither more nor less than this, that it was once a rich mine of ore, which supplied the contiguous furnaces. A detached cluster of rocks, called St. Martin's, or the Three Sisters, skirt the river in passing down, near which, at a short reach, called St. Martin's Well, the stream is supposed to have a greater depth of water than in any other part. At the extremity of this reach, from a beautiful vale, king Arthur's plain again presents itself, assuming a castellated form. About two miles short of Monmouth, Hadnock-house, the residence of the Rev. Dr. Griffin, demands attention. It is situated upon the edge of the Forest of Dean, and stands upon the brow of a hill, commanding a delightful view of the meandering Wye. Hence a road runs parallel with the river, along the base of the hills, to Monmouth. A distant view of the bridge and town of MONMOUTH soon appears, with the solitary church of Dixon upon the opposite bank of the river,

From Monmouth Mr. Ireland made an excursion to RAGLAND CASTLE. Returning, he resumed his passage down the Wye. The retrospect was pleasing; including the spire of the church, the town, bridge, and surrounding scene. The hills opposite to Monmouth, are called the Kymin Rocks, the summit of which is crowned by the pavilion. This spot commands a most extensive and diversified view. About one mile further is an immense large rock, called the Buck Stone. It is situated upon the extreme edge of the hill, standing upon a point so equipoised,

that by the application of a small force it may be shaken. Approaching the junction of the Munnow with the Wye, the side scenes of the latter increase in richness both of wood and verdure, with pleasing breaks in the distance. A little below this point, a small river, called the Trothy, unites with the Wye, flowing near a respectable mansion called Troy-house, possessed by the duke of Beaufort, to whom it descended from Sir Charles Somerset.

Amid rich, beautiful, and fertile, though hilly scenery, reach Redbrook, which separates Monmouth from Gloucestershire, where is a manufactory of iron and tin. Half a mile below this place the Wye receives a small stream called Whitebrook. Beyond this spot the river forms a grand sweep, flowing into an abyss, between two ranges of lofty hills, thickly overspread with woods. At about the distance of a mile stands St. Briavels, upon an eminence above the river. The remains of this castle indicate that it has been of considerable extent and of great strength. It was built by Miles, earl of Hereford, in the reign of Henry I. The custody of St. Briavel, with the Forest of Dean, was granted to John de Monmouth, in the 18th year of king John. Hence the views of the surrounding country are extensive and beautiful. Returning to the boat, pass Big's Wear, near which stands the house of general Rooke, whose grandfather captured Gibraltar; and on the opposite side Pilson House appears in the back-ground. Through a range of beautiful scenery pass the extraordinary village of Llandogo, scattered among trees upon the side of a hill. Here the river forms a smooth bay, over which the vessels glide or lay moored to take their freight. The undulating hills called the Hudnell's form a beautiful back-ground to this charming scene.

A little below is Cadithill Weir, whence drop pleasantly down the stream to another village called Brook's Weir, half way from Monmouth to Chepstow. Goods from the former place are here shipped and conveyed in large vessels to Bristol. The river, in an

easy meandering course, soon introduces a view of the most picturesque, including the splendid and very elegant ruins of TINTERN ABBEY, which appear with great effect from the river. In approaching this venerable remain, the steepy hills, the hanging woods, the rolling stream, the nodding ruin, the surviving monuments of fallen grandeur and beauty in decay; the opening vacancy, the stillness and retirement, all aid the enthusiasm of the spectator, who forgets for a moment that he is connected with the busy world. Who is there that does not regret the wreck and rapacity produced by the revolution of opinion, and the desolation here made by the last Henry, who, under the pretence of religious zeal, displayed the ravaging arm of an insensible barbarian. The small gothic gate at the entrance, was evidently an adjunct of the abbey.

Having passed much beautiful scenery nearly in the style of that at Tintern, the east bank of the Wye presents a screen of rocks not unlike those of Coldwell, called the Thorn and Black cliffs. The Wye is here disturbed by the influx of the tide, and marshy land appears upon its shores. The rocks which terminate the grounds at PIERCEFIELD are next approached. They are 12 in number, bearing the names of the apostles; a thirteenth is denominated St. Peter's thumb. They resemble the bastions of a castle, and return a surprising reverberation of sound. A little lower pass the precipitate rock called the Lover's Leap. A circular bend of the river next discovers the noble ruin of CHEPSTOW CASTLE, placed upon the highest part of an immense perpendicular rock. This majestic remains is from this point highly interesting. The ancient gothic entrance, partly in ruins; the irregular breaks and prominencies, in the form of the building, which is a mixture of the Norman and Saxon styles, are in many parts overgrown with large clumps of ivy and variegated shrubs; sometimes beautifully clustered among the fragments of the castle, and again falling



down and enriching the white and awful cliff below. The adjoining bridge is calculated to add to the general effect of the landscape.

From Chepstow PIERCEFIELD may very conveniently be visited; a spot to which nature has been uncommonly profuse, not only in the disposition of the beautiful slopes and waving lawns which form the grounds, but in the extensive and diversified scenery which strikes the eye from every point. Mr. Ireland in passing still further down the stream found that the high impending screen of rocks on each side of the river, rendered the passage delightful. Among these he noticed particularly the Red Rocks, and Hardwick Cliff, as peculiarly attractive. In the latter large apertures have been dug, extending 40 or 50 yards from the entrance. In this vicinity is a remarkably fine well of water, which gives the name Thornwell to a beautiful range of woods, adjoining the termination of Hardwick cliff. At Ewan's rocks, about a mile below, the Severn breaks extensively to view; but at the conflux of the Wye, or in the vicinity of BEACHLEY (the old passage-house) it is seen to greater advantage. The distant hills of Gloucestershire and Somersetshire, beautifully intersecting each other in varied tints, while intervening castles, villages, and mansions of the wealthy, on the opposite shore, richly diversify the whole. The distance composed of Walton-hills, about 10 miles below, breaks harmoniously, forming a happy termination across King-road and the Bristol channel. Hence groups of vessels, constantly moored near the mouth of the Bristol Avon, though at the distance of three miles, are perfectly distinguishable.

Mr. Coxe appears to have been much gratified in performing the navigation of the Wye. "The Banks," he says, "for the most part, rise abruptly from the edge of the water, and are clothed with forests broken into cliffs. In some places they approach so near, that the river occupies the whole intermediate



space, and nothing is seen but wood, rocks, and water; in others, they alternately recede, and the eye catches an occasional glimpse of hamlets, ruins, and detached buildings, partly seated on the margin of the stream, and partly scattered on the rising grounds. The general character of the scenery, however, is wildness and solitude; and if we except the populous district of Monmouth, no river perhaps flows for so long a course through a well cultivated country, the banks of which exhibit so few habitations." Convenient vessels, adapted for holding eight persons besides the boatman, provided with an awning, may be had at Hereford and Monmouth. Mr. Coxe dwells much on the description of the Coldwell Rocks and Symond's Gate or Yat. The latter is not less than 2000 feet above the water. The river here makes a singular turn; for though the direct distance by land is not more than 600 yards, the course by water exceeds 4 miles.

In continuing the navigation of the Wye to Tintern Abbey, Mr. Coxe particularly notices the romantic village of Redbrook, the church and castle of St. Briavel, the beautifully situated hamlet of Llando, and Brook's Weir. At the latter place the river exhibits the appearance of trade and activity, and is the point where the maritime and internal navigations form a junction. Vessels from 30 to 90 tons, from Bristol and the Somersetshire ports, frequently lie here, waiting for the tide, which seldom flows to any considerable height above this place.

The usual practice is to go from Hereford to Ross in a carriage, and thence in a boat to Chepstow; but the beautiful scenery on the banks of the Wye is omitted. Mr. Warner thinks there is no mode of seeing the numerous and varied beauties of this river so satisfactorily as by tracing its sinuosities on foot; and the following is the route he pursued. Crossed the Wye at Castle-green, and struck through the grounds and farm-yard of Rotherwas, an elegant family mansion. Dynedor hill lay before, and the

Roman encampment, which receives its name from it, on the left. Hence he took a farewell view of Hereford and its neighbourhood, the adjoining hills, and the black mountain, that striking boundary to the north-west, and enjoyed a diversified and sweeping prospect to the opposite point. Our approach to Home-Lacy was by a gradual descent of nearly one mile, through a rich productive country. This is one of the many houses belonging to his grace the duke of Norfolk. The older part of it displays the awkward style of Elizabeth's time; the more modern part was built about the beginning of last century. Its situation is quiet and retired, commanding a beautiful and confined view in front.

Home-Lacy was for some centuries in the ancient family of the Scudamóres, whose ancestor, St. Scudamore, (so called from the *scutum amoris divini*, which he took for his arms) attended William the Conqueror in his expedition to England. Philip Scudamore, a descendant, settled here in the 14th century. This was the principal seat of the family till the year 1716, when the last viscount Scudamore dying, the estate vested in his only child, a daughter. By Charles Fitzroy Scudamore, Esq. (her second husband) she also had a daughter, to whom the property descended. This lady married the late duke of Norfolk in 1771, and added Home-Lacy to the princely domains of that nobleman. It was the last viscount Scudamore who rebuilt the greatest part of the manor-house. He was the friend of Pope, who frequently wooed the muses here. The good taste of the duke of Norfolk, allows the mansion to remain unaltered. The family portraits, and elaborate carvings by Gibbons, but little inferior to those at Petworth and Chatsworth, are still a part of their venerable ornaments. The apartments are decorated with many valuable paintings, by Vandyck, Janson, Holbein, and other artists. Here is a very capital picture by Hamilton, of Solomon, and the Queen of Sheba; and Louis XIII. and his Queen, by Beaubrun,

contemporary with Vandyck. In the cabinet is a sketch of the great lord Stafford, in crayons, from Vandyck, by Pope. The grounds at Home-Lacy are very pleasant. The old garden, on the south front, was formed on the model of Hampton Court, in Middlesex, and is a very spacious terrace. The view-trees, originally clipped into grotesque shapes, have been left to regain their foliage.

Ascending the hill into the park, the scenery becomes more noble, and the landscape more expanded. From the upper part of it are commanding prospects of the Gloucestershire hills, the black mountains in Monmouthshire and Brecon; those over Hereford and Bredwardine, with Robin-Hood's Butts; and the Clee-hills in Shropshire. Near the parsonage-house is a remarkable Pear-tree, covering nearly a quarter of an acre, and forming an orchard of itself, having yielded for many years from 12 to 16 hogsheads of perry. It is accounted for as follows. A large branch having broken by the wind, its head fell to the ground, the bud still adhering to the trunk. Some time after it appeared to have struck into the ground, taken root, and formed a scion. Willing to humour this *lusus naturæ*, the incumbent gave directions for other layers to be made from the tree in a similar manner, which became rooted and bear fruit. Opposite Home-Lacy, at the bottom of an extensive meadow, is a ferry to the village of Fownhope. Passing this place about half a mile to the north is an ancient camp; and twice that distance to the north is another, occupying the summit of an eminence called Caplar-hill; the latter camp is doubly trenched and called Woldbury. This hill is finely wooded; the prospects from it are extensive and rich; among which the vagarious Wye forms a striking feature. Here the river makes a capricious turn to the south, and leads the pedestrian, who follows its banks, a circuitous walk of six miles to Fowley Court, a venerable mansion of the time of queen

Elizabeth, and anciently belonged to Sir John Kyrle, an ancestor of the "Man of Ross."

To the village of How-Caple, the direct path is two miles. Inclosed by a reach of the river below Fawley, is Ingeston-house, an old and spacious brick mansion, long the residence of the Hoskyns family. On the banks of the Wye, nearly opposite to Ingeston, at a place called Hole in the Wall, are the remains of an ancient building, the site is now partly occupied by many cottages. About one mile lower down, on the Wye, is another of the ancient camps which form a chain upon the eminences in this part of the country. It occupies the summit of Eaton Hill; the entrenchments are very perfect and deep; the area is cultivated. A farm-house at Eaton displays vestiges of an ancient mansion; the ground about it is called the Park of Eaton. Opposite to Ross, on the west bank of the Wye, are the ruins of Wilton Castle. GOODRICH-CASTLE, the ancient family seat of the Talbots, rises upon the opposite bank of the river, at the distance of four miles from Wilton. Proceeding to Hensham Ferry, a considerable sweep of the river is left which contains no features particularly interesting. Again crossing the Wye, you turn immediately into a path through the meadows on its banks. Here the scene becomes truly majestic. The Coldwell rocks, rising to a towering height on the right, alternately start through the thick woods which mantle their sides in lofty pointed crags; and display broad masses of their surface, relieved by creeping lichens, and diversified with mineral tinges. Hence Mr. Warner's course led him up a steep and winding ascent to the summit of Symond's rock, a stupendous precipice. Hence the river, just crossed, with its contiguous scenery, appears spread beneath. In an opposite direction are seen the New Weir and iron-works; a short and capricious turn of the river, the Doward rocks, and a huge insulated crag, little inferior to the cliff from which it is seen. At the new Weir it

is again necessary to cross the river to follow its meanders. On the right for more than half a mile continues a bold steep bank covered with beech-trees.

The Doward rocks constituting a very grand feature of the Wye, now begin to open, opposite to which is a fine echo, from near a spreading beech-tree, in the middle of the meadow. This path leads to the turnpike-road from Ross to MONMOUTH, which runs parallel with the river for some distance, commanding a glorious view of the Wye. Passing the bridge at Monmouth over the Wye, and turning into the meadows near its margin, at the distance of little better than half a mile, the river makes another grand sweep to the right, and assumes a new character. Dismissing its rocks and precipices, it rolls through lofty sloping hills thickly covered with waving woods. All here is solemn, still, and soothing. An agreeable variety, however, soon occurs, at the picturesque village of Redbrook, a busy scene, enlivened by active industry in various forms. Whitebrook, another hamlet, presently succeeds; to the left of which, on a commanding elevation, is seen the village of St. Briaval's, with its church and castle. The singular village of Llandogo, which next opens, is disposed upon a lofty hill, the indented side of which is mantled with deep woods, with many small cottages intermingled. The river next takes a sharp turn to the left to Caerdithel, in a descent of several feet in a distance of half a mile. At the populous village of Brookswear, the Severn hoys ascend to receive the lading of the Wye barges; where Mr. Warner left, for a short time, the banks of the river, to wind up a narrow lane for another mile. He then attained the summit of a hill, from which a prospect appeared of extraordinary richness and variety. Behind, the fairy regions of Llandogo, the busy village of Brookswear, deeply embosomed in wood; and the crystalline river, studded with vessels. In front, the village of Tintern, with the diversified scenery of the dale in which it stands,

and the lofty ruins of its abbey. Descending the hill and again across the Wye, Mr. Warner proceeded to the Beaufort Arms, a comfortable Inn.

#### MINERALS AND FOSSILS.

Among the minerals are limestone, like marble, near Snodhill Castle; Fuller's Earth near Stoke; Marble near Ledbury; Red Hematite, Red Feldspar Quartz, at the foot of the Herefordshire Beacon, two miles east from Ledbury; Gneiss, Sandstone, Granular Quartz, Hornblende Steatite, Breccia, at Holybush Hill, three miles south-east of Ledbury; Quartzose Sandstone, containing Mica and impressions of Madreporites and Terebratulites, at Swinnit Hill, three miles from Ledbury; Argillaceous rock, containing Madreporite, Porpita, and turbinated Madreporite, in a lane leading from Colwall Green to Wych, four miles from Ledbury; large limestone quarries containing calcareous spar with red Sulphate of Barytes and many shells, at Eventon.

Considerable quantities of saffron were formerly produced in this county, and in the gardens situated in the suburbs of Hereford. This did not escape the notice of our provincial poet:

“ Can Tmolus' head

“ Vie with our saffron odours?”

Its culture, however, has long been discontinued here, and principally attended to in the counties of Essex and Cambridge, but the purple crocus (*colchicum autumnale*,) which belongs to the sixth class of Linnæus, blossoms in the meadows by the Wye in the month of September. The *crocus sativus*, which produces saffron, belongs to the third class of Linnæus.



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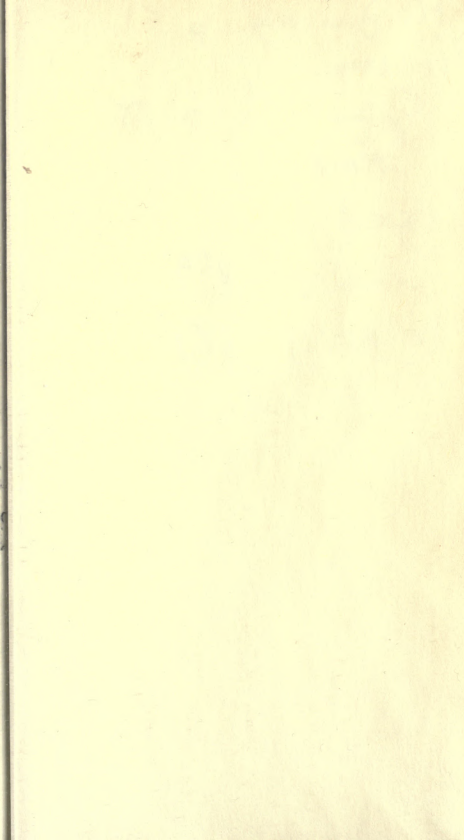
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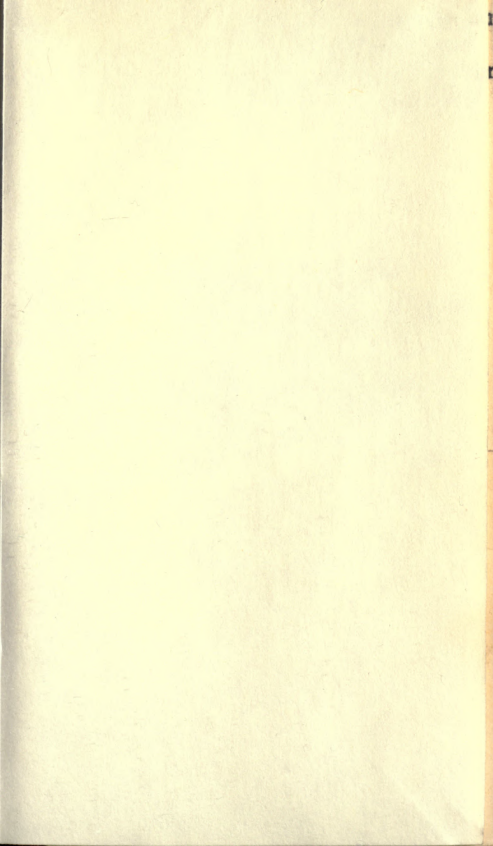
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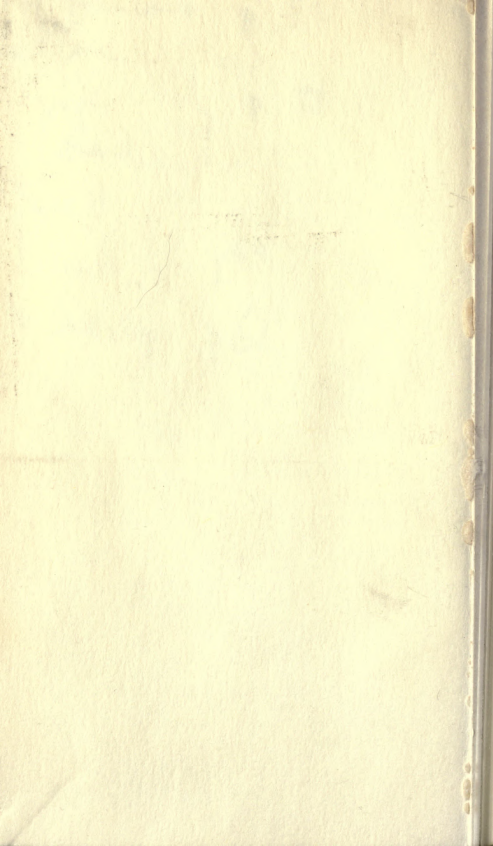
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